



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Al-Asad Agrees To Attend Baghdad Summit

NC2405080390 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0745 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Kuwait's AL-QABAS quotes a highly placed diplomatic source in Cairo as saying Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has agreed to attend the emergency Arab summit conference in Baghdad.

Islamic Conference Condemns Workers' 'Massacre'

LD2305143890 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1340 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] The secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] Dr. Hamid al-Ghabid, has condemned the cowardly and organized massacre of a number of Palestinian workers. In a telegram to Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, he said that this massacre was part of the Zionist fascist and racist scheme in the context of a campaign of mass extermination against the Palestinian people and its blessed intifadah, thus paving the way for driving the Palestinian people out of their homes, replacing them with Soviet migrants, and setting up what is termed Greater Israel.

The ICO secretary-general reiterated the solidarity of the Islamic nation and its standing on the side of the just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people with their wise and courageous leadership until they realize all their objectives: freedom, independence, and the establishing of their own independent state on their own land with Jerusalem as its capital.

His excellency urged the Islamic nation to continue its political and material support for the Palestinian intifadah. The ICO secretary general also expressed the deep concern of the Islamic states over the organized and hideous massacre perpetrated by an Israeli soldier against innocents, and the subsequent savage assault against the Palestinian population in the occupied territories, which caused the killing of 20 people and the injuring of more than 1,000.

In a letter to the secretary general of the United Nations, Mr. de Cuellar, his excellency, said that this hideous crime against humanity committed by the Israeli authorities, together with Zionist settlers, was more savage than the numerous massacres committed by the racist Zionist regime against the Palestinian people since the occupation of Palestine.

On behalf of the ICO, Dr. al-Ghabid urged the United Nations and the security council to take effective steps to deter Israel from undertaking its campaigns of terror. His excellency affirmed that the rights of the Palestinian people can be protected only by guaranteeing the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied territories, and putting the latter under provisional control of the United Nations so the

Palestinian people may be able to exercise their right to self-determination and to establishing their own independent state.

His excellency called on the UN secretary general to implement the fourth Geneva 1949 convention on protecting civilian populations, and to put and end to the waves of Soviet Jewish immigration to and settlement in occupied Palestine, because this violates international conventions and constitutes an obstacle on the road to peace.

Concluding his letter, Dr. al-Ghabid urged Mr. de Cuellar to continue efforts to realize a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East in the framework of an international peace conference with the participation of the Security Council permanent member states and the PLO on equal footing.

Paper Cites U.S. Concern Over Arab Criticism

JN2305162890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0540 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 May (WAKH)—The newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, published in Abu Dhabi today, said the U.S. Government held urgent contacts with a number of Arab capitals in the past few hours. In these contacts, it expressed extreme concern over the criticism of U.S. policy, which encourages Israel to continue its repressive measures in the occupied Arab territories—a matter that is included in the draft resolutions currently being discussed by the Arab foreign ministers in Baghdad.

AL-ITTIHAD quoted a U.S. official as saying that, during these contacts, the U.S. Government expressed the hope that the Baghdad summit would produce resolutions that would help pave the way for a resumption of peace efforts in the Middle East instead of leveling criticism that will not serve these efforts.

The U.S. official pointed out that, in the message he recently sent to the Arab League, Secretary of State James Baker urged the Arab states not to call for an international peace conference at this stage, and to support his initiative on a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

Further on Content of Soviet Message to Klibi

JN2205214890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT
22 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (WAKH)—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has received an oral message from the Soviet leadership. The content of this message has not been disclosed.

Soviet Ambassador to Iraq Viktor Posuvalyuk conveyed the message during a meeting he had with Klibi in Baghdad today.

Arab diplomatic sources have informed WAKH correspondent in Baghdad that the message dealt with maintaining Soviet-Arab ties, the need to develop them, and

Moscow's readiness to forge ahead with efforts to safeguard the interests of the Arab nation in the future.

The sources said that the Soviet leadership expressed its hopes and wishes that the Arab summit conference would produce resolutions and recommendations that would serve the world regarding the establishment of world security and stability in view of accelerating world changes.

Foreign Ministers' Conference Continues Meetings

Peace, Weapons Motions Endorsed

JN2305130390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0956 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—The Arab foreign ministers today resumed their preparatory meetings prior to the extraordinary Arab summit. During their fourth session, the ministers will discuss the remaining topics on their agenda before submitting them to the Arab leaders during their summit due to be held in Baghdad on 28 May.

Meanwhile, the drafting committee formed by the Arab foreign ministers resumed its meetings today to discuss draft resolutions before later submitting them to the foreign ministers.

INA has learned that, during its morning meeting today, the drafting committee discussed most of the draft resolutions and made the necessary decisions in this regard.

The drafting committee endorsed draft resolutions concerning solidarity with Iraq, peace efforts in the Middle East, clearing the Middle East region from all weapons of mass destruction, and the situation between Iraq and Iran. The drafting committee also discussed issues related to the use of science and technology in development.

The drafting committee will later discuss the Palestinian working paper that includes five major issues, foremost of which are the Jewish emigration and support for the intifadah.

During their fourth working session today, the Arab foreign ministers endorsed five draft resolutions concerning solidarity with Iraq, the situation between Iraq and Iran, solidarity with Libya, the dangers posed by Israel's infiltration into Africa, and Iraq's right to science and technology.

The drafting committee will meet later today to discuss the remaining topics on its agenda.

It is worth noting that the drafting committee, which is chaired by Iraq, groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, and Somalia.

Discusses Palestinian Question

JN2305084690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—The drafting committee formed by the Arab foreign ministers' conference resumed its meeting today to complete discussion of a draft resolution on the Palestine question and the working papers submitted to it on this issue.

Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, chairman of the committee, which includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia, and Somalia as members, told INA that the draft resolution on the Palestine question being discussed by the drafting committee prior to submitting it to the Arab foreign ministers' morning session today, includes several major issues; namely, the dangers posed by the Jewish emigration to occupied Palestine and Arab Jerusalem, attempts to obliterate the identity of Jerusalem, means to support the intifadah, and future Arab political action.

The drafting committee session which began last night, continued until 0400 today.

Ministers on Summit's Importance

JN2305135290 Baghdad INA in English 1030 GMT
23 May 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, May 23, INA—Arab foreign ministers at noon today resumed their preliminary meetings for the Baghdad Arab summit next Monday. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, several Arab foreign ministers stressed that convening Baghdad summit represents the springboard for the unity of Arab rank against challenges threatening pan-Arab security.

In their press statements published here today, the ministers said the Arab masses were pinning hopes on the decisive resolutions of Arab leaders to counter the hostile campaign engineered by Zionist and imperialist circles against the Arab nation.

Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid stressed that current circumstances require Arab solidarity for countering dangers to which the Arab nation is exposed. He added that the Baghdad summit would serve as an opportunity for coming out with a unified stand compatible with the nature of threats facing pan-Arab security, especially following the international political changes and developments of the Arab-Zionist conflict.

He added that the convention of the summit in Baghdad was an expression of the Arab nation stand along side Iraq against the smear campaign launched by Zionist and imperialist quarters against its scientific progress.

Omani Foreign Minister Yusuf Bin-'Alawi said that the convention of the Arab summit in Baghdad was an embodiment to Arab solidarity with Iraq against the conspiracy which is after harming its national role and

that forthcoming days would be full of good news to the Arab nation. [paragraph as received]

The Qatari Foreign Minister stressed that prevailing Arab climate ushures [as received] the hope of unity of Arab rank in facing challenges against the security and historic existence of the Arab nation.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that convening the Arab summit in Baghdad constitutes a national turning point for the Arab nation in confirming its capability to counter all challenges of destiny and replying to them in a way that would highlight dignity and glory of the Arab nation.

He added that nature of current circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing place Arab leaders before a historic responsibility in placing Arab solidarity on its correct path against plots to damage this nation security.

Drafting Committee Ends Meeting

JN2305214390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—The drafting committee of the Arab foreign ministers' conference concluded its meeting a short while ago after discussing the draft resolutions on the agenda of the Arab foreign ministers' conference.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, chaired the committee meetings. The committee comprises the foreign ministers of Egypt, Palestine, Algeria, Libya, Somalia, and Iraq.

Emigration Letter to U.S., USSR

JN2405074090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 23 May 90

[Radio correspondent's dispatch from Baghdad]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, made the following statement to the Jordanian press delegation after the morning session:

[Begin al-Qasim recording] I believe that the results of the meetings held yesterday and today affirm that the Arab views are identical in many fields that concern pan-Arab security, whether in the Eastern Arab region or in the Maghreb.

With regard to Jordan, we had an opportunity to meet with their highnesses and their excellencies the ministers participating in this meeting. Jordan frankly and honestly has explained the Jordanian leadership's views on the dangers of the aggressions that might be targeted against Jordan. In Jordan's view, all Arabs are targeted.

We must underline that the issue of emigration, which we have discussed frequently, does not only threaten to

end the Palestine question or to try to launch aggression on neighborly countries, but also threatens pan-Arab security.

Through the discussions and deliberations held among us as foreign ministers, it has been decided in principle to present a proposal to the kings and presidents. The proposal is a draft of a letter from the summit addressed to the U.S. and Soviet leaderships, who are primarily concerned with the issue of Jewish emigration and settling the emigrants in the occupied Arab territory.

We also hope that there will be more interest in developing the economic and social potential of the Arab states, which are in dire need of this development.

There was also a clear discussion of the unfair campaign against sisterly Iraq. We believe that this campaign is not only aimed at Iraq; it is the start of targeting any given country. This country has proven its ability to confront dangers, and at the same time to deal with others with a modern mentality, whether by technological or scientific development, or by laying down the scientific infrastructure for this society. We believe that in the coming years Iraq will be able to develop its economic and social potential, because it will be the impregnable wall against the plots and attempts to weaken Iraq at this stage in particular. These attempts are intended to place the Arab world in a position that we will accept neither for ourselves nor for our coming generations. [end recording] [passage omitted]

'Aziz on Conference Results

JN2405063390 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad—The Arab foreign ministers' meetings held to prepare for the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled in Baghdad on 28 May concluded at 0100 today [2100 GMT on 23 May]

The Arab foreign ministers adopted a number of recommendations and resolutions on their agenda topics which will be submitted to the Arab leaders during their summit.

At the end of the conference, Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a press conference in which he explained the main topics discussed by the Arab foreign ministers. He said recommendations were made on primary as well as secondary topics. They dealt with an evaluation of the Arab situation, world changes from the perspective of pan-Arab security, developments in the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, Jewish immigration to Palestine and other occupied Arab territories, the intifadah, and political action within the context of the Palestine issue. These topics, he added, also included threats against Iraq and Libya and against pan-Arab security as a result of Israel's infiltration into Africa. They also dealt with threats against the Arab countries' right to use science and technology in development.

He said the foreign ministers also discussed the situation between Iraq and Iran, and solidarity with and support for Jordan's steadfastness. He pointed out that these topics, which the foreign ministers approved unanimously during their meetings, will be forwarded to the Arab summit in the form of recommendations.

Tariq 'Aziz explained that the subject of evaluating the Arab situation and world changes from the perspective of pan-Arab security will be handled by the Arab leaders. The foreign ministers did not prepare any working paper concerning this subject. Regarding other subjects on the agenda, recommendations in the form of draft resolutions were prepared for presentation to the Arab summit. [passage omitted]

The foreign minister stressed that the recommendations were the result of an Arab dialogue, and that the ministers handled things within the range of their responsibilities and powers and made the recommendations as raw material for the Arab leaders. He said: We interact with this world; we listen and express our views, but we change neither our conception of things nor the direction of our resolutions or recommendations to please this or that party.

He pointed out that the Arab foreign ministers, through recommendations made after constructive and objective fraternal discussions, have prepared raw material for the Arab leaders, who have their comprehensive views in light of their experience and responsibilities toward the nation.

On the U.S. memorandum to the Arab League Secretariat concerning the Arab summit, Tariq 'Aziz said: My reaction to the subjects concerning Iraq in this memorandum is that they are not accurate and do not reflect the truth. Part of them, moreover, are impolite. He added: The Americans know our views on their statements very well. We expressed these views openly and through diplomatic channels.

He pointed out that, at the proposal of the tripartite Arab committee, the foreign ministers left the Lebanese subject for the Arab leaders to decide as to whether it is appropriate or should not be discussed. The foreign ministers expressed joy and satisfaction with the unification of Yemen, which coincided with the Arab foreign ministers conference.

Details Ministers' Deliberations

JN2305202490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the preparatory meetings held by the foreign ministers were

very successful. He added that the deliberations of these meetings took place objectively and smoothly and in a fraternal atmosphere. He went on to say: During two days of talks, we managed to agree on a host of important recommendations to be submitted to the Arab leaders at their extraordinary summit to be held on 28 May.

In a statement to INA, Tariq 'Aziz said: We agreed on a host of recommendations in the form of draft resolutions on the main topics related to the major issue of the summit; that is, the threats to pan-Arab security.

'Aziz added: The deliberations proceeded objectively and constructively in an atmosphere of understanding and solidarity among the brother foreign ministers. We expect to conclude our work this evening. The Arab nation, on the official and popular levels, has made its position on these threats known before convening the Arab foreign ministers' conference. He indicated that the Arab League has condemned these threats and expressed full solidarity with Iraq. He recalled the positive outcome of the Arab popular conference for solidarity with Iraq that was held recently in Baghdad.

The foreign minister said that this support for and solidarity with Iraq had a positive effect on the conference, as the foreign ministers approved a draft resolution in this regard reflecting the Arab position.

Tariq 'Aziz expressed his confidence that the Arab states, on the levels of leaders and ministers, will spell out its unmistakably clear and unequivocal stance rejecting, condemning, and denouncing these threats and expressing solidarity with Iraq and its right to use every means to defend its security and sovereignty.

The foreign minister added that the issue of Zionist threats was high on the agenda of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in view of the significance and gravity of these threats and also in light of their impact on pan-Arab security. He said the ministers' speeches addressed various aspects of these threats. He indicated that the conference issued a statement condemning the savage Zionist massacre that resulted in the death of a number of Palestinian workers in the occupied territories.

Tariq 'Aziz touched on the issue of Jewish immigration to occupied Palestine and confirmed that this issue was given proper attention by the Arab foreign ministers. He said this issue was listed among the threats to pan-Arab security and went on to say that Jewish emigration was discussed at length by the ministers. He said that the conference will issue the relevant recommendations on the issue and that these recommendations will be submitted to Arab leaders at their extraordinary summit.

'Aziz Remarks on U.S. Memo

JN2405064590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0345 GMT 24 May 90

[Jamal al-'Abbadi's dispatch from Baghdad]

[Excerpts] Following two days of constant meetings, the foreign ministers have approved a number of recommendations that will be submitted to the Arab leaders to formulate the necessary resolutions and measures. [passage omitted]

Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning issued statements to journalists on the outcome of the Arab foreign ministers' conference. He said:

[Begin 'Aziz recording] I would like to say—without any bragging, as this is also the feeling of my brother ministers—that our meeting was very successful in form and substance. Over two days of constant but psychologically comfortable work, we managed to fulfill a task, which I feel was not an easy one. We have managed to prepare for a summit conference, which, we all agree, will be one of the most important conferences to be held in the history of joint Arab action in view of the importance of the topics to be dealt with, and in view of the seriousness of the pan-Arab circumstances under which the summit will be held.

Work was carried out in a practical and objective manner and in a brotherly spirit, and all brother ministers have shown identical viewpoints. The discussions were objective and constructive, and I can say that the major part of our recommendations were agreed upon from A to Z. Neither do we have any differences over the small—very small—part of the remaining items. However, we have left some options open for our leaders to choose between this or that formula. [end 'Aziz recording]

Answering a question on the U.S. and Soviet messages addressed to the Arab League General Secretariat on the occasion of the extraordinary summit, the Iraqi foreign minister said that the Soviet Union and the United States have a special position in this world, and have sent memos on similar occasions to explain their viewpoints on various issues. He said: Any talk we hear from this or that party does not determine our agenda and the direction for our action. We interact with this world. We listen and make our viewpoints known. However, this does not change the way we understand things.

Regarding the Iraqi reaction to the part concerning Iraq in the U.S. memo, 'Aziz said: The memo is imprecise and does not reflect the truth, and part of it is impolite.

He pointed out that the Americans know Iraq's viewpoint on what they say.

Regarding Syria's attendance of the extraordinary Arab summit, the Iraqi foreign minister said that the Iraqi invitation still stands. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

Bassam Abu-Sharif Stresses U.S. Role in Dialogue

LD2305110390 Kuwait KUNA in English
0948 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tunis, May 23 (KUNA)—The Palestine Liberation Organization, PLO, has reiterated it is prepared to open immediate dialogue with the Israeli Government to end the occupation and examine means of establishing the independent state of Palestine that would live in co-existence with Israel.

The Palestinian president's advisor, Bassam Abu-Sharif told reporters here last night that the PLO considers the United States the only party capable of opening doors for Palestinian-Israeli negotiations to "honor pledges" by the U.S. President George Bush and previous American administrations to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Abu-Sharif urged the U.S. Congress to live up to its responsibilities towards human rights and to rectify its double standard vis-a-vis protection of human right principles and its unjustified (?denial) of Palestinians' legitimate rights. He reaffirmed the PLO commitment to peace in the Middle East and recalled that the organization had repeatedly made sincere endeavours which were never reciprocated by Israel.

He said the Israeli leaders were adamantly blocking all genuine initiatives and international peace efforts, including those offered by the U.S.

'Arafat Receives European Envoys in Tunis 23 May

LD2405130890 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] The meeting of the UN Security Council tomorrow in Geneva and the issue of sending UN forces to the occupied territories were the center of the meeting yesterday in Tunis between Mr. Yasir 'Arafat and the ambassadors of the European tripartite commission.

The three ambassadors expressed their condemnation of the massacre of the Palestinian workers committed last Sunday by a Zionist settler near Tel Aviv.

Al-Hasan Says 'Arafat To Visit Syria 'Soon'

NC2405123890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT
24 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 24 May (MENA)—Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, has stated that his visit to Syria early this week was to prepare for President 'Arafat's visit to Damascus which will take place soon.

Al-Hasan, who came to Cairo to attend the Socialist International conference, added that his visit to Syria was successful and to a great extent helped to bolster relations between Syria and the PLO. He also stressed

the importance of Syria's pan-Arab role and of its presence at the Arab summit scheduled to be held in the Iraqi capital on Monday.

PLO Radio: U.S. Memo 'Flagrant Aggression'

JN2405070890 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1740 GMT 23 May 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers: There is a bitter question posed by blood, destiny, and soul—a soul full of grief, anguish, and [word indistinct]. It is the only question that our martyrs, before our living ones, pose to the awaited emergency Arab summit in Baghdad. It is how, where, and when will the response be? Our people and the masses of our Arab nation throughout the Arab homeland want nothing less than a practical and effective response—not only to the continuous crimes of the Zionist occupation against our Palestinian people, but also to the arrogant U.S. policy which tries to impose full hegemony on our Arab nation and to undermine its movement toward progress and prosperity. This policy has been displayed in the ugliest and most brazen manner by the U.S. memo presented to the Arab League General Secretariat on the convocation of the Arab extraordinary summit in Baghdad.

This policy poses the greatest challenge to us—to be or not to be. Yes, this is the challenge. The United States does not want our nation to be a powerful nation among other world nations that enjoys full sovereignty and independence. It does not want any independence or sovereignty for our nation. It wants the Arab nation to be fragmented, disunited, submissive, and satellite peoples. It wants the Arab homeland as a market for its commodities and an area to be fully exploited to serve its interests. It wants to steal its resources so that it can flourish and be prosperous at the expense of the Arab people. This is the United States of America, which wants Israel to remain the sole powerful state in the Arab region—a superior force that has right to commit aggression and achieve expansion whenever it wishes.

This is what the U.S. memo to the extraordinary Arab summit says most explicitly. He who has the least doubt can read the clear memo that hides nothing. This memo, in itself, is a flagrant aggression. How will the Arabs respond to this aggression? We will not ask when this response will take place. The Arab summit is imminent. The challenge has been made. It has to respond to this challenge. This response has to be clear-cut. Otherwise, there is no hope for this nation.

PFLP Official Comments on Jordan Ties, U.S.

JN2305203390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
22 May 90 p 11

[Interview with 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, Political Bureau member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, by Wafa' Amr in Amman; date not given]

[Excerpts] ['Amr] How do you view Palestinian-Jordanian ties and the current domestic developments in Jordan at present?

[Malluh] We take a positive view of the recent developments in Jordan. We favor the decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank. The disengagement decision is important, as it came out of a political understanding of recent developments. The fact we favor this decision was expressed in the resolutions adopted at the 19th Palestine National Council. We are eager to see Jordan play its role, as it is a vital role for the Palestinian question. Besides, it is more important than the role of any other Arab state. A host of historical, geographic, demographic, and social factors lend this importance to the Jordanian role. We in the PLO, and even within the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], therefore, seek to develop this relationship along two lines:

The first line is to support and develop the intifadah to help it realize our legitimate national objectives, including our rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state.

The second line in developing our ties is to bolster the democratic trends and accomplishments in Jordan. We believe the success and entrenchment of the democratic experience in Jordan would constitute a element of great support for our intifadah and struggle, as this success and entrenchment would involve the participation of the largest possible cross-section of people in supporting the Palestinian question and protecting the intifadah. Hence, we are trying to develop this relationship in a manner that would serve our national interests as well as Jordanian national interests.

['Amr] What is your perspective on Jordan's role in the wake of the disengagement decision?

[Malluh] Jordan's role is fundamental in the settlement process. According to our view, the solution must be attained within the framework of an international conference to be attended by the countries concerned. Jordan is in the forefront of the countries concerned, not to mention the PLO. We also call for meetings among the concerned five [Arab] countries, including the PLO, to coordinate stands in preparation for the international conference. Consequently, Jordan has a basic role to play because it is a concerned country. Besides, we want Jordan to play its role because it would help us in our battle to regain our rights. As for confederation, it would be achieved after Palestinian national independence. That is because independence is instrumental for the success of the battle against Israeli-U.S. policies. [passage omitted]

['Amr] In view of the formation of Jordanian parties, how do you view the involvement of Palestinians residing in Jordan in these parties?

[Malluh] The issue pertaining to Palestinians in Jordan is a domestic one dictated by the existing social makeup.

Palestinians in Jordan should assume their responsibilities within the democratic process in Jordan. They are part of the social, demographic, economic, and political makeup of the country. At the same time, they have their own aspirations regarding their national cause.

At all the difficult moments in the Palestinian revolution, the latter has shown an unprecedented eagerness to safeguard the existing unity. Consequently, mistaken ideas might emerge from this or that party. However, our sense of responsibility dictates that these ideas be confronted.

[Amr] Palestinians, then, must be involved in Jordanian parties, particularly since the National Charter will not allow the licensing of parties that have extensions abroad?

[Malluh] The involvement of Palestinians in Jordanian democratic life and Jordanian parties is natural, because the alternative would be the formation of Palestinian parties in Jordan; and this is would be the most serious danger and the biggest mistake that we, Palestinians or Jordanians, could make. I hope we will not make such a deadly mistake, as it would—deliberately or not—fragment the country's unity. Anyone forming such a party would serve neither our cause nor Jordan's. Consequently, I believe political involvement, regardless of origin, in the existing political organizations in Jordan is necessary. This way, we can bolster national unity and there would be competition to take proper and sound positions. Everybody is responsible for confronting any other tendencies. [passage omitted]

[Amr] What are the issues that created a sort of disparity in Soviet-Palestinian ties? How is this disparity being tackled?

[Malluh] As for the ties between the PLO and the USSR, they are good, despite the fact there some difficulties. We are eager to close the gaps in these ties and also to safeguard them, as the mere maintenance of relations between the PLO and the USSR is a cause of dissatisfaction and disapproval to hostile parties—parties, that is, hostile to the Palestine cause and to the USSR. Furthermore, the hostile parties want to deprive us of any allies, so that they can dictate to us their will and policies.

The most important difficulty affecting Palestinian-Soviet relations concerns Jewish emigration and its repercussions. We view the emigration issue as one that undermines the national rights of the Palestinian people. We acknowledge that Soviet citizens have the right to travel freely. This right, however, should be withheld when it negatively affects the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, simply because national rights are of greater importance than the right to travel or to express oneself freely. We were relieved by the expression used in this regard by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev when he recently met Syrian President Hafez

al-Asad. Gorbachev said that the emigration issue must be linked to Arab rights. We view this as a development in the Soviet position.

As for the second [as published] issue, it concerns the fact that the USSR has changed its position on the convening of an international conference by supporting a bilateral dialogue. However, it has not abandoned once and for all the call for an international conference, despite its support for a bilateral dialogue. It favors joint USSR-U.S. supervision of the dialogue. The USSR does not view the bilateral dialogue as an alternative to the international conference. The PFLP believes that any bilateral meeting, or any other formula outside the framework of an international conference, would kill the notion of an international conference.

Therefore, the difficulties in the Palestinian-Soviet relationship concern more than one issue. We have been eager to tackle this responsibility. In this, we are not relinquishing our national responsibility. Besides, we have wanted to hold a dialogue with the Soviets. At the same time, emphasis must be laid on U.S. policy, which caused the emigration issue to assume these alarming proportions. U.S. policy has gone through several phases. In the thirties, the same thing happened when the Americans fixed a specific quota for immigrants to be allowed into U.S. territory.

Hence, before hastening to criticize the USSR, citing the dangers posed by the emigration process and making joint efforts to find solutions, out of a sense of joint responsibility, to this issue, we must understand that the main danger posed by this emigration lies first and foremost in U.S. policy. This is one of the main topics of debate between us and the USSR.

[Amr] How do you envisage dealing with the United States?

[Malluh] At the outset, I would like to say that we view positively the launching of a dialogue between the PLO and the United States, because this dialogue came about through certain circumstances. However, the dialogue has turned into a dialogue between two ambassadors instead of becoming a political dialogue. We might have made mistakes in managing this dialogue. I believe that we actually made a mistake when we allowed the emergence of channels of communication other than the PLO. The PLO should have firmly rejected any channels of communication other than the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue. The United States might have retreated had we adopted a better position on this.

Hence, we must view the United States as an enemy in our assessment of U.S. ties. If this is made unmistakably clear, the military, financial, popular, and economic management of our battle with the United States would be different. If we continue to cooperate with the United States and to view it as an ally, the current situation would be maintained for many years to come. The United States does not attach much importance to

subservient parties. It would take us seriously only when its interests dictate such a course of action.

As long as U.S. interests are being served easily at present, there is nothing to prompt the United States to change its policy. Our deposits, which total billions of dollars, are being kept in U.S. banks, not to mention other things. Despite this, the United States is insolently taking hostile positions on our issues. Its interests are not being undermined by anybody. It mounted a military attack on Libya and is now planning to attack Iraq just to serve Israeli interests. It is doing all this without feeling that its interests are being threatened.

Hence, the basic solution lies in reconsidering our political platform. The United States should be made to view Arab interests just as it views Israeli interests. That is, we must link our U.S. ties to U.S. political positions on our issues. We must respect U.S. interests only when it respects our national interests. We must have the Japanese example in mind. We have unlimited resources, and numerous political and economic weapons that we can use in this regard. However, we are not using them.

[Amr] What is the truth regarding the differences within the Unified Leadership [of the intifadah] between the PFLP and the other factions represented within the Unified Leadership? How have these differences been overcome?

[Malluh] We have no differences with the Unified Leadership. The differences have occurred within the framework of the Unified Leadership. These differences concern the way the intifadah is being viewed, the role of the intifadah, and the escalation of the intifadah. These differences are differences of opinion that might arise at any time. All factions represented within the Unified Leadership are eager for the intifadah to achieve its objectives and there is a continuous debate on how to develop the intifadah.

The other aspect regarding these political differences is that the PFLP believes that the Unified Leadership must not be involved in the existing political tactics. That is because we believe that this would weaken the people's enthusiasm and undermine the people's role. These political tactics (on the bilateral dialogue and who will form the [Palestinian] delegation) must be the exclusive concern of the PLO, the Palestinians' political leadership. [passage omitted]

U.S. Urged To Accept Migrants Bound for Israel

PM2205145790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 17 May 90 p 3

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, "prominent Palestinian figure in the occupied territories," by Mahmud Ka'wash in Athens; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ka'wash] We know that you visited several East and West European countries, including the Soviet

Union. Then suddenly and without prior arrangements you visited the United States. May we know the purpose of that visit?

[Al-Husayni] True, the U.S. visit was not part of my tour. But after the visits to Moscow and some European capitals—which coincided with some important regional and international developments which meant that six difficult months were ahead of us—I found it essential to go to the United States to closely acquaint myself with the U.S. position, represent the Palestinian position, and draw attention to the next stage.

[Ka'wash] What stage?

[Al-Husayni] The intifadah has had a good and, I may say, profound impact on Israeli society and on the Israeli political map. It has led to a disagreement between the two major parties in Israel, but it has not succeeded in changing the balance of power. Despite their increasing mutual repulsion, the balance is still the same. And this led to the emergence of the national unity government, which was paralyzed and unable to make decisions. This situation served, and continues to serve, the Israeli occupation's aims and the continuation of domination for the sake of expansion.

With that government's fall and the view that it is now favorable to continue with the present interim government under Likud leader Yitzhaq Shamir, it has been clear beyond doubt that Shamir will not seriously try to form a new government. But he will try to exploit the next six months to try to hit the Palestinian intifadah, build more settlements, and absorb the largest possible numbers of Jewish emigres in occupied Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

[Ka'wash] After the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue experiment, have the urgent Palestinian demands of the United States been determined?

[Al-Husayni] Regardless of the length of that experiment and its fruitful results or the lack of them, we have some requests of the U.S. Government, most importantly the following:

First, the United States must come out with a clear position stating Israel's responsibility for the suspension of the peace process and the need to propose a new-old plan, that is the international conference, at which all doors should be open to the side which has displayed flexibility and the ability to deal responsibly in political terms, namely by raising the level of the PLO-U.S. relationship;

Second, the United States should link its relations with Israel—and the development of these relations—to the political moves, human rights issues, and Israel's violation of these rights and international law. That can be done selectively, in the sense that no cultural agreements should be signed with Israel until it reopens the Palestinian universities in the occupied territories. Nor should any economic ties be developed with it before it

suspends the economic sanctions imposed on the Palestinians, along the lines of what Europe has done in certain cases;

Third, it must be aware of the importance and seriousness of the next six months and the need to stop Israel from repressing the Palestinian people and from changing the demographic reality in Palestine through the Jewish influx to the occupied territories, which coincides with the Palestinians' evacuation from those territories;

Fourth, it must decisively resolve the issue of Soviet emigration by opening U.S. doors to it—since that emigration is economic and not ideological as some claim—thus directing most of the emigres to the United States;

Fifth, U.S. aid to Israel with regard to the emigration issue should be linked to the suspension of settlement operations in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and east Jerusalem.

'Arafat: Palestinian Patience 'Has Limits'

JN2105141690 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1220 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, who visited Cairo yesterday, believes that Palestinian patience has limits. Yasir 'Arafat gave an initial reaction in his statement to our correspondent in Cairo, Mustafa Bakri. We will listen to some of Yasir 'Arafat's replies to our correspondent's questions in Cairo.

[Begin recording] ['Arafat] They must know that patience has its limits, patience has its limits. It is enough for me to say this. Those who know me know that I am not joking. My words have deep implications on foreign, international, and Arab levels, and also in the eyes of my people, the patient and steadfast children in the land of steadfastness, the land of sacred Palestine.

[Bakri] Does this mean that you will call the Palestine National Council [PNC] to hold a session to reconsider the peace march, as you have previously announced?

['Arafat] I have a PNC, Mustafa. I do not deceive my people. I will tell them everything. I will tell them [words indistinct]. I will reveal all positions of all countries, including friendly, allied, and neutral countries. I will tell them with complete frankness and clarity where we are now. But I will tell them again that it is the intifadah that toppled the Israeli Government, and that is preventing the formation of the new government. This intifadah will achieve victory and raise its flag.

[Bakri] Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], what about the features of the Palestinian strategy you intend to submit to the forthcoming Baghdad summit conference?

['Arafat] I will ask them: What will the Arab response to Shamir's massacres be? Will the Arabs be content with a statement of denunciation; will the Arabs be content

with a word of encouragement; or will there be concrete action or measures before it is too late? [end recording]

Islamic Jihad Claims Stabbing of Soviet Jew

JN2105120790 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian
Arab Radio in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Dear brother strugglers, we have just received the following:

The Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine has assumed responsibility for liquidating the Soviet Zionist settler last night in Jerusalem. The Movement has issued a statement on this subject which contained the following:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. Slay them wherever ye catch them, and turn them out from where they have [Koranic verse; as heard].

The Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine announces its responsibility for the killing of the Soviet Jewish settler last night. The Movement also asserts that this immediate revenge by one of our heroic strugglers is nothing but an urgent introduction to the greater revenge which the Movement intends against the groups of the criminal enemy.

While facing the daily massacres committed by the enemy against our defenseless people, we announce that every Jew on Palestine's land, wherever he may be, will relentlessly be a target for our bullets and daggers.

Let the murderers of the prophets know that we will direct our bullets at all their chests. We will plunge a knife in their necks until they hurt like we are hurting in order to heal the hearts of our believing and steadfast masses.

Let the bloodsuckers know that we are lying in wait for them as they do for us. Let those who have oppressed know what their final destiny will be.

Glory and immortality to our pure martyrs. Long live Palestine, liberated from the River to the Sea, God willing.

[signed] The Islamic Jihad Organization in Palestine

PFLP-GC Denies Responsibility for Smuggling

JN2305112590 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian
Arab Radio in Arabic 1055 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Brother strugglers, we have just received the following: Following incidents in Palestinian camps in Jordan as an expression of our people's denunciation of the Zionist crime on Black Sunday, tendentious reports were disseminated that some national Palestinian factions have smuggled weapons across the Syrian-Jordanian borders. These reports aim to incite sedition, which benefits only the nation's enemies.

Contacted by al-Quds radio, a responsible source in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General

Command [PFLP-GC] denied the PFLP-GC's responsibility for the entry of any weapons across the borders. He said these tendentious reports aim to undermine the position of the PFLP-GC and to divert attention from the denunciation and popular wrath against the Black Sunday crime. The source added that these rumors are baseless in part and parcel.

Muragha Denies Involvement in Jordan Incidents

*JN2405055090 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 24 May 90*

[Text] In Damascus, Fatah Movement-the Uprising under Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] has denied being behind the disturbances in Jordan.

'Abd-al-Hadi al-Nashshash, spokesman for the movement, rejected the accusations leveled at Fatah-the Uprising, including allegations that it is involved in sabotage operations. Al-Nashshash affirmed that no group belonging to the movement had crossed Syrian-Jordanian borders.

Sha'th on Peres's Call To Settle Jews in Negev

*NC2205155690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT
22 May 90*

[Text] Cairo, 22 May (MENA)—Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, has stated that the call made by Israeli Labor Party Leader Shim'on Peres for settling Soviet Jews in the Negev Desert does not express reality because the settlements are actually being set up in the territories occupied in 1967.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, Sha'th was commenting on Peres' call at the inaugural session of the Socialist International today. Sha'th said that the Palestinian people's current problem is that of the settlement of Jews arriving from abroad in successive waves in the occupied Palestinian lands, especially in Arab Jerusalem, a matter which makes Peres' call insignificant as it does not express reality.

Of the points included in the resolutions adopted by the Middle East Committee which met yesterday, Sha'th said the most important are recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, establishment of an independent Palestinian state, and the call for an international conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Israelis and the Palestinians, under UN supervision.

Sha'th said that the Middle East Committee resolutions clearly condemn the Israeli violations and affirm the Palestinians' right to self-determination. They also urge Israel to respect the Palestinians' social, civil, human, and political rights. He added that the committee has adopted a clear resolution opposing the establishment of settlements and considering them illegal on the basis of the Geneva Conventions and the UN resolutions. The resolution also calls on the parties to the dispute to begin a dialogue that will lead to convening an international conference.

Sha'th explained that the committee has called on all parties to stop terrorist acts, whether those carried out by Palestinians against Israel or those by Israelis against Palestinians. He indicated that this resolution has treated the Palestinians and the Israelis equally regarding terrorist acts.

Sha'th said that the committee has stressed that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This is a de facto recognition represented by the invitation to us to attend as observers at this council and by our membership on the Socialist International's Middle East Committee.

Sha'th underlined the role which Socialist International can play to give the European states a more effective role regarding the Middle East issue.

Regarding the admission of the PLO as an observer to Socialist International, Sha'th commended Egypt's role in this connection, as well as its role in trying to start an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

He expressed regret that the Israeli Labor Party objected to the presence of the PLO as an observer at the council while the Mapam Party agreed to this. He indicated that the Labor Party participated in drafting the resolution accepting the PLO.

Egypt

Bush Conveys 'Regrets' Over Israeli Shooting

NC2305153290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1429 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—President Hosni Mubarak received a telephone call from U.S. President George Bush this afternoon.

During the conversation, President Bush expressed his regrets at the incidents which took place in the occupied Arab territories last Sunday and Monday, in which several Palestinians fell victim.

President Bush also expressed his indignation at these incidents. He stated the United States has started to take the necessary measures to open its doors to Soviet immigrants.

At the end of the conversation, President Bush emphasized the United States is anxious for the continuation of the peace process, which is the only way to avert more violence in the region.

Peres Views Bush Remarks; Arafat Adviser Reacts

NC2305113490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—Israeli Labor Party Leader Shim'on Peres has declared his support for U.S. President George Bush's statement this morning on the need for Israelis and Palestinians to halt the violence in the occupied Arab territories to provide an opportunity to hold negotiations between Palestinian and Israeli delegations.

In a statement to MENA in Cairo, Peres said that at the Socialist International drafting committee meeting, his Labor Party opposed a resolution on the Middle East that clearly calls for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

He added he had not met with any PLO representatives while in Cairo, but had met with Hanna Sinuyrah, editor of AL-QUDS—published in East Jerusalem—and with senior Palestinian lawyer Fayiz Abu-Rahmah from Gaza, who both are Palestinians living in the occupied Arab territories.

On the other hand, Dr. Nabil Sha'th, political adviser to Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, commented on Peres' statements by saying this is the first time in the history of the Israeli Labor Party that it has agreed to a statement on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, although without accepting their right to an independent state.

Dr. Sha'th told MENA that Shim'on Peres' stand in general was "irresolute", as he did not mention Israel's massacre of Palestinians in the occupied territories during the past few days when he addressed the Socialist International conference yesterday. He added: Peres told

the conference yesterday he opposes the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories but we should not forget the building of settlements in the occupied territories began when the Labor Party was in power in Israel.

Sha'th expressed his belief Peres' peaceful statements and interviews come because he is not in power, adding that the Palestinian intifadah has probably caused some Israeli leaders, including Shim'on Peres, to change their positions. He added the intifadah has also left its mark on the Israeli people, as the number of Israelis who support peace with the Palestinians is now increasing.

The Palestinian official called on the Arab leaders who will meet at the Baghdad summit to take effective steps to stop the Israeli massacres of Palestinians in the occupied territories and to support the Palestinian intifadah.

Socialist International Issues Resolutions

Resolution on Lebanon

NC2305153890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—At its meeting in Cairo today, the Socialist International stated peace has not yet been achieved in Lebanon, noting the civil war is continuing. The amendment of the Lebanese Constitution has become inevitable, it said. The conference called on the international community to respect the territorial integrity of unified, free, and democratic Lebanon and to support the al-Ta'if agreement.

The conference also called for the withdrawal of foreign military forces from Lebanon according to UN Security Council Resolution 425, and said that, until this is achieved, the UN institutions and forces in Lebanon will continue to play their important role. The status of the United Nations in Lebanon must be reinforced, the conference members said.

Resolution on Middle East

NC2305160690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1503 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—The Socialist International has issued the following resolution on the Middle East:

Opportunities to enhance worldwide peace, detente, disarmament, and cooperation are growing. Unfortunately, this does not apply to the Middle East. Apart from the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, all efforts to establish a just peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors have failed.

The intifadah which broke out two and a half years ago is still continuing and its victims are increasing. The Socialist International believes this is a very serious situation.

All the efforts made so far to hold direct negotiations in Cairo between the Israelis and the Palestinians have failed, despite the constructive help rendered by Egypt and the United States. The stand adopted by the Likud in Israel has been the major obstacle to this goal. The risk of extremism on both sides of the conflict has become a growing reality. For the sake of peace, the Socialist International stresses the following:

- That the Israeli and Palestinian peoples should engage in direct negotiations, provided these negotiations gain the support of the United States, the Soviet Union, the EC, and the other parties concerned, and essentially involve Egypt;
- That the Israeli Government should respect human, political, civil, and social rights in the occupied territories, according to internationally recognized criteria;
- That all shootings of Palestinian civilians, destruction of homes, mass expulsions and imprisonments, and violent and brutal practices on the part of settlers should be stopped. Moreover, attacks against Israeli civilians must stop;
- That the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories is a violation of the UN Charter and the Geneva Convention. Such settlements are illegal. They upset the population balance and obstruct peace, and hence they should be stopped. Moreover, schools and universities should be kept open and the ban on contacts between the Israelis and Palestinians lifted;
- All parties to the dispute are urged to abandon terrorism in its various forms and immediately stop the shooting of both Palestinians and Israelis;
- The PLO Charter should provide for the secure existence of the Israeli state, since this is part of recognizing the national right to self-determination of both Palestinians and Israelis;
- An international peace conference should be held under the auspices of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, with the participation of all the concerned parties in the region, including the Palestinian people, so a comprehensive settlement of all conflicts between Israel and its neighbors may be reached;
- The EC, the European Free Trade Association, the United States, Canada, Japan, and oil-producing Arab countries are urged to develop a precise and large-scale program to promote economic development and cooperation among the Middle East countries. Such a program should begin as soon as negotiations achieve their goal;
- It is important to seek an agreement, comprising all states of the region, banning the production, possession, or use of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. The export of such weapons to the region and of the means of producing these weapons or parts of them must be banned.

The Socialist International will spare no effort to help establish peace in the Middle East. In its efforts toward this goal, it will be guided by the following principles:

A political settlement based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338, which renounce the use of force;

Secure existence of the State of Israel;

Ensuring the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, with the outcome represented in any constitutional form they choose, not excluding the establishment of a state or any other possible arrangements.

The Socialist International will continue to hold contacts with individuals of goodwill in the region. In this respect, we will benefit from the fact that our organization includes Israeli parties and parties from the Arab countries. We will not allow anyone to prevent us from strengthening our contacts, which are indispensable for peace.

Resolution on Afghanistan

NC2305161890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1508 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—The Socialist International conference has stressed a political solution is the only solution capable of bringing about peace in Afghanistan. The conference welcomed the preliminary steps taken by the Kabul government in this direction.

In a resolution issued on Afghanistan at the conclusion of its meetings today, the conference called on the Afghan people to determine their future by themselves through free elections. It welcomed the offer by former Afghan King Zaher Shah to assist in the ongoing efforts to achieve peace.

The conference called on political friends in Pakistan to help in the quest for a political solution to the Afghan problem.

Resolution on Eritrea

NC2305171290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1519 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—At the conclusion of its meetings today, the Socialist International conference passed a resolution on Eritrea which said: The Socialist International expresses its deep concern regarding the situation in the Horn of Africa.

The resolution stated: Despite the start of discussions between the Ethiopian Government and representatives of the Eritrean people, who have been fighting for the past 30 years for their right to self-determination, these discussions have not yet made any progress. Meanwhile, the bloodshed and the destructive war are continuing, threatening to cause terrible starvation. For this reason, the Socialist International calls for the resumption of the peace process. To achieve this, it has become necessary to give a more important role to the international

community and to implement the 1952 UN resolution on Eritrea recognizing the right of the Eritrean people to choose their own government, a right the Ethiopian Government until now has been violating.

Resolution on Southern Africa

*NC2305190590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT
23 May 90*

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—At the conclusion of its meeting in Cairo today, the Socialist International approved a resolution on southern Africa. Following is the text of the resolution:

The year 1990 will be the year of remarkable changes in southern Africa. Namibia's independence and the release of national leader Nelson Mandela are two signs of these changes. The Socialist International welcomes these positive developments.

Namibia's independence was the result of a combination of two factors: the struggle of Namibia and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) and the UN efforts. The declaration of independence under UN supervision stands as proof the United Nations can act under difficult conditions. The Socialist International calls on the international community to apply this successful experience in other areas of conflict.

The winds of change have blown on southern Africa. The release of Nelson Mandela and the measures adopted by the South African Government to release all political detainees and lift the state of emergency represent a significant turning point in the struggle against racial discrimination, although the bases of the racist regime still are unchanged.

The talks which have started between the African National Congress [ANC] and the South African Government may be the starting point for a process that eventually will eliminate racial discrimination and lead to free and clean elections.

There are several problems, however, which should be solved before real negotiations begin. The state of emergency should be lifted and political detainees should be released.

The Socialist International stresses the need to implement the UN General Assembly declaration issued on 14 December 1989, which provides for initiating negotiations between the two sides.

The Socialist International calls for continued sanctions against South Africa, since lifting them would mean a continuation of the racial discrimination policy.

The Socialist International expresses its full appreciation of the role played by the ANC and other democratic organizations and urges all its members to support such efforts.

'Abd-al-Majid on Results

*NC2305191290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1821 GMT
23 May 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated Egypt has done its best to ensure the success of the Arab foreign ministers conference in view of the current developments in the Arab world and the changes and challenges facing it.

In press statements in Baghdad today, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid expressed his belief the conference has achieved its objectives. He said the results will be submitted to the Arab leaders to make final decisions on them.

Regarding the U.S. and Soviet messages to the conference, he said: They were a sort of briefing to the conference on the U.S. and Soviet views. This is something traditional where summit meetings are concerned.

'Abd-al-Majid on Results of Baghdad Meetings

*NC2405093290 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 24 May 90*

[Text] Egypt's delegation, led by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Cairo from Baghdad this morning after taking part in the Arab foreign ministers meetings. The meetings ended yesterday by approving the agenda for the extraordinary Arab summit due to open on Monday.

'Abd-al-Majid stated the meeting achieved its goal, and he expressed hope the upcoming Arab summit will accomplish the desired goals to confront regional challenges and changes.

In another development, a ministerial committee of the foreign ministers of Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Tunisia, Oman, as well as the Arab League secretary general, held a meeting last night at the end of the Arab foreign ministers meetings to discuss the issue of returning the Arab League headquarters to Egypt, in light of a previous resolution regarding this.

Mubarak Congratulates Salih on Yemeni Unity

*NC2305131590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1305 GMT
23 May 90*

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak telephoned Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today to congratulate him on the proclamation of the Republic of Yemen.

During the telephone conversation, President Mubarak conveyed the Egyptian people's good wishes to the brotherly Yemeni people on this occasion, noting that this successful step will strengthen the Arab nation in its march toward cooperation, solidarity, and a better future.

Libya

Libya To Support Pakistan Against 'Aggression'

BK2205014490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0100 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi has assured Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto that Libya will support Pakistan if it is made a target of aggression. This assurance was given during a meeting between two leaders in Tripoli yesterday.

After the meeting, the Pakistani foreign secretary said the Libyan leader told the prime minister his country wants India and Pakistan to avoid a military confrontation. However, if Bhutto's current efforts to maintain peace do not succeed, then public opinion will be mobilized in the Islamic world to stop aggression; and in this situation, Libya will not remain a silent spectator.

Referring to Libya's relations with India, Col. al-Qadhafi categorically stated these relations cannot be maintained to the detriment of Pakistan.

Earlier, during a flight from Cairo to Tripoli, the foreign secretary told newsmen on board the prime minister's aircraft Egypt is fully aware of the Kashmir issue. There are no mutual differences over the text of the proposed resolution on Kashmir, which will be presented at the forthcoming meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization foreign ministers. The foreign secretary added that President Husni Mubarak has not only agreed to support Pakistan's stand at the conference, but also expressed his willingness to play the role of a mediator to help end the India-Pakistan dispute through negotiations. He said Pakistan has welcomed the Egyptian offer. He said Egypt is fully aware that the current struggle in the occupied Kashmir is of local nature and Indian allegations about Pakistan's interference are unacceptable.

Al-Qadhafi Speaks to Medical Professionals

LD2305220690

[Editorial Report] Tripoli Television Service in Arabic at 1956 GMT on 23 May following its newscast begins carrying a 57-minute recorded speech by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi at a meeting with doctors, pharmacists, and medical assistants on 22 May; the place of the meeting is not given.

The video begins showing al-Qadhafi sitting on the rostrum in an auditorium full of people.

He begins talking about the system of democracy and its failure, saying the Green Book offers the only solution. In Algeria there are 25 political parties, and if they increase any more, they will become people's congresses but under the name of parties, he says. This will never lead to stability, but may lead to anarchy, he thinks. On the fundamentalists in Algeria, al-Qadhafi says they

are creating new things in Islam, but they are not Muslims—they are heretics.

Whatever happens, al-Qadhafi says, the Jamahiri system will spread throughout the world. He says it has not spread yet because the peoples of the world do not know much about it. On alternative systems, al-Qadhafi says: The electoral and representative systems have proved their failure; the party system has failed because a partisan government will do whatever is right for its party and supporters and not for the whole nation.

Throughout the world there are economic problems and political problems, and these prove the failure of all the systems asserts al-Qadhafi. Libya must quickly set a really good example for the whole world, he thinks. Libya is the first Jamahiriya and thus is the prototype of the only workable practical system for the whole world. In the Soviet Union, according to al-Qadhafi, they just started implementing the Green Book by saying: The house should be for its inhabitants. Everyone who wants a house is free to build it the way he likes and to maintain it; the Green Book is based on principles which furnish solutions to all the problems of the world, al-Qadhafi explains.

In the jamahiri system every sector should manage itself, he continues. In the health field, the People's Committees for health, the general people's committee for health, and the unions from now on will be formed by health workers, doctors and non-doctors, he says, and adds that in all these committees women should be properly represented. The workers in the health sectors will be responsible for health and will have no one else to blame for their problems. The same has happened in many other sectors and is what will happen in all sectors, al-Qadhafi explains, the committees will be responsible to the people and will answer to them. Al-Qadhafi thinks if health workers have professional complaints, then they should go to their union and the union should settle it; and if health workers neglect their duties, then the union should punish them. However, al-Qadhafi also thinks there should be an authority to which the worker can go if his union does not give proper attention to his professional complaint. Al-Qadhafi notes that if the complaint has nothing to do with the profession, such as traffic violations, theft, etc., then this should be subject to civil law and the penal code, which are the same for all citizens. The unions intervene and settle professional problems—nothing else, al-Qadhafi emphasizes.

Al-Qadhafi thinks a revolutionary committee will be needed in this stage to look after anything that could be missed by the people's committees.

He says: Democracy is the rule of the people and not the an expression of the people.

The dentists say they are separate from the rest of the medical profession, al-Qadhafi says, and adds they can form a separate union.

Sudan

Al-Bashir on Regime's Methods, Coup Attempt

PM2205151390 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic
16 May 90 p 19

[Interview with Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council, by Muhammad Mahjub; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency, Lieutenant General, what is the truth about the existence of a council, called the Council of 40, which makes plans for the National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] under you?

[Al-Bashir] That question has been repeated a lot, and we have repeatedly denied the rumor about its existence. Because the question is incorrect, an incorrect answer is sought to match it.

The truth is, it is all Sudan's faithful sons who plan for the NSRCC. We raised all the homeland's major issues at a crowded conference, and thinkers and all men of good judgment, regardless of their intellectual affiliations or ideological orientations, were invited. The only criterion was commitment to a united Sudan and readiness to make a serious contribution to the development of its present and the elevation of its future. [passage omitted]

[Mahjub] Your Excellency, Lieutenant General, what is your explanation for the inclusion of some prominent members of the Sudanese parties? Is it to appease and win over the Sudanese parties? And why did [former Information Minister] 'Ali Shummu resign?

[Al-Bashir] The revolution erupted to tackle party chaos and to remedy conditions in the country, especially in view of the deterioration and corruption maintained under party and sectarian symbols. In the revolution's first statement we announced the dissolution of the parties, the banning of their destructive activities, and our firm conviction that in view of their unsuccessful experiments the parties can lead Sudan to nothing except disunity, conflict, and fragmentation, thus casting the country into a chasm. God spared us their ugly actions, and the people supported us in removing them, so we cannot deal with them. So the revolution's vocabulary does not include any talk of winning over or relying on the parties.

We have included individuals to profit from their capabilities, and because we are sure of their patriotism and commitment to Sudan and the Sudanese people. No one is questioned about his past political affiliations. Nor do we link him to the parties for which he worked in the past. Those who have joined the revolution's ranks are part of it, and we are all here to salvage Sudan, its people, and its civilization.

The person to whom you referred, who offered the revolution a great deal and drew up its informational strategy, was relieved of his post. That was prompted by the requirements of the stage and the nature of the revolutionary change. [passage omitted]

[Mahjub] Your Excellency, Lieutenant General, observers in the West believe the NSRCC chairman's rush to try to appease John Garang encourages more exaggeration and intransigence on the latter's part. What is your comment?

[Al-Bashir] Perhaps observers in the West see what we do not see, because of the nature of the difference between us and them. The revolution's principle, from which there can be no deviation, is to appease no one at Sudan's expense. And John Garang is no exception, that he should be exempted from that rule and that firm principle. The observers' view may apply to the era of the annihilated parties, which tried every means to appease the rebels, forfeited every honor and virtue to persuade John Garang to stop his war, and slaughtered the shari'a to appease him, but the faithful people and their struggling forces toppled them.

Today Garang knows us better than anyone else and, if he has the courage, he should reply to the observers' lie before we volunteer to expose it. And even a glance at what the war and peace arenas have witnessed over the revolution's recent months would give you, with evidence, the reply to that allegation.

[Mahjub] Your Excellency, Lieutenant General, several successive coup attempts have taken place. What is the truth about them, who is behind them, and why have they occurred in such a short period of time in terms of the regime's age?

[Al-Bashir] The attempts were carried out by groups isolated from the Armed Forces' consensus, namely because the National Salvation Revolution came in response to a sincere national will, because the revolution was the safety valve of the Armed Forces' unity and cohesion, and because it succeeded in liberating the political authority from chaos and unrest. The revolution made major achievements at both the domestic and foreign levels—which aroused the spite of those seeking power.

The recent attempt and the one which preceded it were made by a weak leftist alliance in which the officers retired for corruption and moral discipline played a role. It was a movement alien to the Sudanese Army, in which some lower ranks were exploited. The aim was to abolish the shari'a laws and declare Sudan a secular state, in ruling which John Garang and his movement would participate to change Sudan's Arab, Islamic cultural identity. All this occurred in a short period of time, because they realized time was not in their favor, since the National Salvation Revolution is setting up a new building every day and building bridges of trust with the citizens—bridges which are difficult to break down. [passage omitted]

[Mahjub] Your Excellency, Lieutenant General, observers say passing death sentences at such a rate is bound to undermine Sudanese security and create a kind of psychological pressure on the Sudanese people, thus resulting in a kind of popular indignation or a unity among foreign forces to topple the present regime. What truth is there in this, and how does Your Excellency visualize Sudan's future?

[Al-Bashir] These are untrue allegations. As for our overview of Sudan's future, it is the overview of someone who has worked for economic, political, and social salvation; someone who advocates peace in the south and relies on plans to purify the inner self and develop the land, someone who repudiates power ambitions in every step he takes; someone who questions himself before he expects others to question him. Sudan is a good country, its citizens are good people, and its future will be good, God willing.

Government Still Seeks Reconciliation With Chad

EA2205222490 Khartoum SUNA in French 0915 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] [words indistinct] Major General [words indistinct] organized on Monday [21 May] in Al-Fashir, the capital of Darfur.

Mr. al-Zubayr reaffirmed that the Sudanese Armed Forces were ready to confront the situation. He added Sudan had no interest in the Chadian Government nor the opposition, and it was still seeking to achieve reconciliation in Chad.

Maj. Gen. Al-Zubayr furthermore confirmed the revolution was seeking to ensure the needs of the Armed Forces so they could safeguard national unity and inform it about the security situation in the region, following the events which occurred recently in Darfur, due to the presence of the Chadian opposition in the country.

In his speech, Maj. Gen. al-Tijani Adam al-Tahir, National Salvation Revolution Command Council [NSRCC] member and supervisor of Darfur, noted the arms of the Chadian forces which had entered Sudan were beyond Chad's military capabilities.

Furthermore, Mr. al-Tijani said the road linking Melut and the Sudan and the town of Kofra [as received] was closed due to the aggression perpetrated by Chadian troops against a commercial convoy on that road. Furthermore, the NSRCC denied the news alleging the convoy was carrying arms. (He added) that the integration between Sudan and Libya was not aimed at acting aggressively against any country.

Minister Warns of Ethiopian Threat to Nile Waters

EA2305194690 Khartoum SUNA in English 0933 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Khartoum, 23 May (SUNA)—The newly-erected Ethiopian dams on the Blue Nile will affect water flow to

the Sudan if Addis Ababa uses the dams for irrigation purposes, irrigation minister said.

Mr. Ya'qub Musa Abu Shura, irrigation and water resources minister, told daily AL-INQADH AL-WATANI that Ethiopia is currently using two dams on the Blue Nile for electricity generating ends. This does not affect either Sudan's or Egypt's share, but when these dams are used for irrigation purposes there will be a threat to both shares of Cairo and Khartoum, he told the daily.

Ethiopia is said to have embarked on building more than four dams on the Blue Nile River.

The Blue Nile waters constitute the bulk of the River Nile waters essential to both Sudan and Egypt.

Al-Bashir Congratulates Salih on Unification

EA2305133190 Khartoum SUNA in English 1640 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Khartoum, 22 May (SUNA)—General 'Umar al-Bashir, Revolution Command Council chairman, today sent a message of congratulations to Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of the Yemen Republic, on the occasion of Yemeni unification. Gen al-Bashir said the unification of Yemen comes at a time [when] efforts are being exerted for the global Arab unity and facing the fierce attacks against Iraq and Libya. Gen al-Bashir has also commended the efforts deployed for the unification of Yemen.

UN Official Informed of 'Severe' Food Shortage

EA2305133390 Khartoum SUNA in English 1630 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Khartoum, 22 May (SUNA)—Revolution Command Council member and political supervisor of Bahr al-Ghazal Region Colonel Martin Malwal Arop (?met here) today with the UN representative here Michael Priestly [words indistinct] relief situation in [word indistinct] region.

Col Arop explained to the U.N. official that Aweil area, north of Bahr al-Ghazal, suffered a severe shortage in food and medical supplies, due to the influx of a big number of displaced people. He called for an urgent aid for these displaced, confirming that these displaced were not obliged by the government to return to their areas. On the other hand, Mr Priestly expressed concern over the said issue, confirming that he will [words indistinct] area in near future.

Al-Bashir Receives New Syrian Ambassador

EA2305201490 Khartoum SUNA in English 1643 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Khartoum, 22 May (SUNA)—Chairman of the Revolution Command Council Lt-Gen 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir today received the credentials of His

Excellency Muhammad al-Mahamid as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary for the Arab Republic of Syria to Sudan. Addressing the receiving ceremony Gen al-Bashir affirmed the government's keenness to develop Sudan's relations with all Arab countries. The ambassador in his turn explained that Syria works persistently to push forward the Sudanese-Syrian cooperation in all fields. He stated that integration is the sole way for the achievement of the Arab unity.

Tunisia

Ben Ali Interviewed on Results of U.S. Visit

LD2105010590 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali gave an interview to the British Broadcasting Corporation following the conclusion of his official visit to the United States of America.

During the interview he affirmed that, in view of its weight and efficacy in the international arena, the Arab world looks forward to a more effective and balanced U.S. role in bringing about security and peace in the region and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

In reply to a question on whether he was carrying a message to U.S. President George Bush, President Ben Ali said he did not carry a specific message to President Bush, but that during talks between the two sides, issues of mutual concern, including the Middle East problem and Soviet Jewish immigration to the occupied territories were addressed, in addition to bilateral relations. Regarding the former: I explained to President Bush Tunisia's view on the peace process in the Middle East. We affirmed that, in view of its weight and efficacy on the international arena, the Arab world looks forward to a more effective and balanced U.S. role in bringing about security and peace in the region and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

I met with my friend president Yasir 'Arafat on the eve of my arrival in Washington. He wanted me to inform the U.S. Administration on the Palestinian leadership's viewpoint.

In response to a question on his expectations of U.S. assistance in confronting the economic difficulties currently being experienced in Tunisia, the president said the United States has always supported Tunisia's developmental efforts, especially at times of natural difficulties and disasters. He said: We think the policy we have followed since 7 November [1987] will help to develop economic cooperation between the two countries, especially in the fields Tunisia gives priority, such as training, technology transfers, and joint ventures.

Concerning the existence of positive indicators, especially regarding human rights in Tunisia and whether that will help the U.S. Administration in responding to Tunisian economic needs, President Ben Ali said: The

climate of freedom and democracy being witnessed by Tunisia, and the latter's concern in protecting human rights is, prior to everything, a principled choice. It has won Tunisia the appreciation and respect of many countries, foremost the United States. Undoubtedly that constitutes an important factor in strengthening Tunisian-U.S. relations, and in widening the scope for bilateral cooperation.

Foreign Ministry Assails Israel's 'Abominable' Act

LD2205083190 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] The Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has released the following statement:

The Tunisian Government expresses its strong indignation at the abominable crime committed by Israeli troops against innocent Palestinian nationals. While condemning these criminal and racist practices, the government reiterates that it stands by the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle, and expresses its conviction such brutal acts will not weaken the determination of the Palestinian people to continue their steadfastness and fight for the recovery of their legitimate rights. On the contrary, such acts will reinforce their determination, while at the same time the peace initiatives are being obstructed. This will further complicate matters and will have negative effects on the security and peace process in the entire region.

Prime Minister Meets With Pakistan's Bhutto

LD2305082490 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2200 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Hamed Karoui held talks with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto this evening at the Government's Palace. The Pakistani premier arrived in Tunis at noon on an official working visit. [passage omitted]

The prime minister pointed out Tunisia shares with Pakistan its concern over the situation in Kashmir and affirms its support for peaceful, just, and balanced solutions based on dialogue in this situation. At the end of his speech, Mr. Hamed Karoui praised the efforts Pakistan makes for development and building a strong state. [passage omitted]

Bhutto Ends Tour, Departs

BK2305162690 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] The prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, was given a warm send off when she left Tunisia for home at the end of her eight-nation tour of brotherly Muslim countries of the Middle East and North Africa. She was seen off at the airport among others by the Tunisian prime minister, Mr. Hamed Karoui.

In a statement before her departure for home, Ms. Benazir Bhutto said she was leaving Tunis with greater encouragement emerging from the understanding of Pakistan's position on Kashmir and other related issues. She said the Pakistani delegation had been impressed by

the steps taken by the Tunisian president, Mr. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, for the welfare of the people of Tunis, greater harmony amongst the Arab countries, brotherhood amongst the Islamic countries, and resolving North-South issues.

Bahrain

WAKH Reports Salutations to Yemeni Leaders

JN2305220590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1018 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Manama, 23 May (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister; and His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force, have stated the establishment of a united Yemen will contribute greatly toward the realization of Arab solidarity and the unification of the Arab stance against the impending dangers facing the Arab nation.

In cables sent to Yemeni President Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid, and Prime Minister Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas on the proclamation of a united Yemen, their highnesses expressed their wishes of continued progress, prosperity, and welfare to the fraternal Yemeni people under the canopy of unity.

In their cables, their highnesses paid tribute to the efforts made by the Yemeni officials to make this unity possible.

Kuwait

Dailies Reject U.S. 'Letter' on Israel, Mideast

LD2405102190 Kuwait KUNA in English 0748 GMT
24 May 90

[Text] Kuwait, May 24 (KUNA)—Three Kuwaiti dailies Thursday lashed out at a recent letter reportedly sent by the United States to the Arab League asking Arab leaders to recognize Israel and support U.S. policy on the Middle East conflict.

The papers, commenting editorially rejected both the spirit and contents of the American message and stressed the U.S. letter was an attempt to prevent the upcoming extraordinary summit in Baghdad from taking the serious resolutions which the Arab world demanded.

The U.S. message, reportedly sent to the Arab League and to Arab governments, called for direct recognition of Israel, the right of Jews for emigration, and said Arab states should abandon the idea of an international Mideast peace conference.

The daily AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM said the United States wants the Arab summit to "maintain silence and remain hand-folded [as received] over Israeli and American violations against the Arabs."

The paper said the U.S. letter carried "lies, deception and an informational ploy" to block the way for any

effective resolutions by the projected summit. The daily was referring to the U.S. offer to open its doors for Soviet Jewish emigrants.

AL-ANBA' daily for its part lamented the U.S. Mideast policy and Israeli atrocities in the occupied Arab lands, stressing that resurgence of the intifadah and growing spirit of sacrifice among Palestinians were the only required reply for the American and Zionist arrogance.

"Further sacrifices and more preparedness for martyrdom were the only conducive way to liberate occupied Palestine and write a dignified history rather than rhetoric statements," the paper said.

The English-language KUWAIT TIMES said "we do not wish to interpret U.S. motives behind President Bush's belated move about accepting Jewish immigrants from the Soviet Union but we cannot help voicing our fears that this may be used as a ploy to influence the Arab summit.

"The U.S. president may earn some [word indistinct] at home... but would not press summit leaders with his utter disregard for Arab sensitivities and perception," the paper said.

It added that Bush's offer to open U.S. doors to the Soviet Jews would have earned him better credibility in the Arab world should it have come long before the summit announcement.

"In that case no one would have suspected a palpable design behind his move that is now very much there for the Arabs to confront," the paper concluded.

PDRY

Statement on 'Rehabilitation' of Former Leaders

EA2205142890 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 20 May 90

[Political statement on rehabilitation issued by the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council]

[Text] Acting on the basis of its historical responsibility, human and revolutionary principles; faith in the truth; the need to see justice done; appreciation for struggle, sacrifice, valor, courage and self-sacrifice; concern for the present and the future and preserving the national unity of our great Yemeni people, the Presidium has considered a resolution of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee issued by its historic 18th and 19th sessions on the rehabilitation of all the national forces and persons who contributed to the revolution's march, the struggle against British colonialism and the freedom of the homeland, as well as of the militants already liquidated, deported or subjected to fear or suffering due to political conflicts and differences or differences in ideology and opinion, but excepting all those who were convicted by a competent court or had engaged in hostile acts against the homeland or joined

hostile circles. Having considered the recommendations issued by the competent high committee concerned with the historic resolution and discussed it at length, the Presidium upheld the political, ethical, and social implications of the resolutions, all of which were designed to strengthen and consolidate the country's national unity and clear the political and social atmosphere in general.

The rehabilitation resolution transcends with its implications all narrow party, group or personal considerations to fill the vessel of our people's higher national interests in acknowledgement of the truth about the march of our contemporary (?history). Indeed, this resolution constitutes a splendid triumph for the course of the universal reform adopted by the party since 1986. It constitutes the ripe fruit of the new realistic thinking, which is progressing firmly in the political field, and it is evidence of the ability to continue the national march of our people toward the peaks of unity, democracy, and progress based on social justice and equal opportunities for all.

The Presidium considered all the types of internal conflicts which had led to tragedies and noted they had occurred at different stages and under circumstances, all of which had been characterized by complications, tension, the absence of democratic practices, a low level of political education and the restriction of freedom of thought, under an atmosphere of external [words indistinct] and destructive and psychological warfare against patriotic regimes.

The Presidium also noted that the major common trait of the political conflicts was the absence of democratic thought, freedom for opposing opinions and all other forms of sound democratic practices within the framework of political practices, and recourse to force, violence and intrigues to achieve various objectives.

The pursuit of authority became a goal which justified all conflicts, which found the right soil in the reality of economic and social backwardness, in the flimsy nature and entanglement of social structures, as well as in illiteracy, ignorance, universal backwardness, lack of experience and knowledge, and the small number of national cadres.

Contemporary history of the nationalist movement is the history of our Yemeni people in all their various classes, groups, and political forces, and today we cannot set aside that history in either its positive or negative aspects.

The historical trust and responsibility of the YSP, which had played a big role in the making of that history, today drive it forward to correct the mistakes of the past and to work earnestly to do everything possible to prevent its repetition. Evidence of this can be seen in all the historic resolutions issued by the 18th and 19th sessions of the Central Committee, as well as in the decision of the Supreme People's Council, No. 150 of 1990, which dealt with the situation of the families of the dead and missing

throughout the various stages of internal conflict from 30 November 1967 until 1986, and which granted them all moral and material care.

In deciding all this, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council is confirming that shining aspect which has preserved for the revolution the ability and potential to continue its triumphant march.

The party has been behind all the achievements and gains, which cannot be denied and have led toward universal reform and a start toward achieving the most sublime objectives of the people, the nationalist movement, and the revolution and in achieving the reunification of the homeland. Behind the party were the thousands of militants who always remained loyal to the principles of the revolution and its ethics.

Taking into consideration this whole history, the Presidium, in support of truth, of man, and of brilliant and glorious history and for the sake of the present and the future, believes history requires the recognition of the role of all the nationalist forces and individuals that have contributed in an effective manner to the liberation of the homeland, its reconstruction and the maintenance of its sovereignty. For this reason the Presidium has resolved to cancel all charges against them which detract from the honor of their nationalism and the sincerity of their militant role.

In this worthy revolutionary spirit the Presidium resolves to rehabilitate politically all the militants who died as victims of internal incidents and conflicts including: Qahtan Muhammad al-Sha'bi, Faysal 'Abd al-Latif al-Sha'bi, Salim Rubayya 'Ali, Ja'm Salih Muhammad, 'Ali Salim La'war and others.

The Presidium also resolves to grant the revolution order "14 Uktubar" to the militant brother, the late President Qahtan Muhammad al-Sha'bi; the militant brother, the late President Salim Rubayya 'Ali; the militant brother, the late Prime Minister Faysal 'Abd al-Latif al-Sha'bi.

The Presidium also resolves to bestow "the 30 November Independence" medals to the militant brother the late Ja'm Salih; and the militant brother, the late Ali Salim La'War. The Presidium believes honoring of these militants with these high decorations is a token tribute to all the brothers who died as victims of the internal incidents and conflicts and constitutes the full rehabilitation of them all.

Members to Ruling Council in Unity State Elected

*EA2305194090 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1925 GMT 22 May 90*

[Text] A joint meeting of the advisory council and the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council was held this morning at the headquarters of the presidium in al-Tawwahi, in the economic and commercial capital of the Yemeni state [Aden].

At the beginning of the meeting, chaired by the oldest member, Shaykh Sinan Abu Luhum, a motion was presented on the names of members of the Presidential Council of the Yemeni Republic. After it had been approved, the election took place of the members of the council. The following brothers were elected: Lieutenant General Ali Abdullah Salih, Ali Salim al-Bid, Qadi Abd al-Karim al-Arashi, Salim Salih Muhammad, and Abd al-Aziz Abd al-Ghani.

After that, the brother members of the Presidential Council of the Yemeni Republic took the constitutional oath. Then the Presidential Council of the Yemeni Republic held its first meeting, during which Brother Lieutenant Colonel Ali Abdullah Salih was elected chairman of the council, and brother Ali Salim al-Bid, deputy chairman.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi, Algerian Foreign Ministers Return to Jeddah
LD2405095190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0922 GMT
24 May 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 24 May 90, SPA—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, and His Excellency Sid Ahmed Ghazali, the Algerian foreign minister, returned to Jeddah this morning (Thursday) from Baghdad, where they participated in the meeting of Arab foreign ministers which was concluded in the Iraqi capital yesterday evening. [passage omitted]

Yemen Arab Republic

Further on Actions Following Unity Declaration

Salih Issues Decree on Anthem

EA2305132390 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpts] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, has issued a decree as Law No. 3 of 1990, concerning the state national anthem of the Yemeni Republic. Here is the text of the decree:

Chairman of the Presidential Council:

After perusal of the agreement on the declaration of the Yemeni Republic and the regulation of the transitional period and the constitution of the Yemeni Republic, and after the agreement of the Presidential Council:

Article 1: The state's national anthem will be: O World Sing, Sing My Anthem [raddidi ayyatuha al-dunya nashidi], written by the poet 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Wahhab Nu'man. Here is the text:

O world sing, sing my anthem. Sing it, again and again. Remember the joy of every martyr. Clothe him in the robes of my festival's light. My country, we are the children and grandchildren of your men. We shall protect all we have of your majesty. The eternal light will brighten all your pathways. Every rock of your mountains. Every grain of your sands. And all the coolness of your shade. You are ours, you are the possessor of our great hopes. What we have come from your exhilarating past. [passage omitted] My unity, my unity, O splendid anthem filling my soul. You are a covenant, you are a pledge. My flag, my flag, woven from every sun. Flutter eternally from every peak. My Arab nation, my nation, give me strength. You are the source of my strength. Abide by me, noblest nation. Eternal are my faith and my love, Arab I walk on the road, Yemeni is the throbbing of my heart, never shall the world see trustees in my land. [passage omitted]

Article 2: The musical tune of the national anthem shall be the tune of the Republican Salute of the Yemeni Republic, according to the model shown in the accompanying notation.

Article 3: This anthem shall be considered as the national anthem for all official and popular occasions. The Presidential Council shall issue a decree clarifying the provisions pertaining to it and the occasions where the national anthem is to be sung or the musical tune played.

Article 4: This decree shall be published as a law in the official gazette and shall take effect from the date of its issuance.

Issued at the Presidency of the Republic, 22 May 1990.

[Signed] Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council.

Salih, Al-Bid Return to Sanaa

JN2305220890 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpt] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the General People's Congress; brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, deputy chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the Yemeni Social Party Central Committee; and members of the Presidential Council returned to the historic capital Sanaa this afternoon from the commercial capital Aden after taking part in the proceedings for declaring the establishment of the Republic of Yemen, which took place yesterday, Tuesday, in the commercial capital of Yemen. There, they inaugurated the greatest national achievement of our people in their contemporary history. It represented the grand crowning of all the struggles and sacrifices

made by our people to see the triumph of their national will and to express their aspirations of building the new Yemeni society, the society of progress and democracy. [passage omitted]

Al-'Attas Forming Government

*JN2305221290 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] Engineer Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, the prime minister charged with forming the new government and

member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Political Bureau, arrived in Sanaa, the capital of the Republic of Yemen, this afternoon.

THE YEMENI NEWS AGENCY-SABA' has learned brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas is currently holding extensive talks to form a government on a basis that would guarantee its ability to carry out its prodigious national duties, especially at this bright and important stage in the history of our Yemeni people and homeland.

Arab League Receives U.S. Memorandum on Summit
*JN2305121590 Baghdad INA in English 1115 GMT
23 May 90*

[Text] Baghdad, May 23, INA—The secretariat general of the Arab League (AL) received a memorandum submitted by the United States on the occasion of holding Baghdad extraordinary Arab summit. The memorandum, published today by Iraqi newspapers, reflected the U.S. interference in the Arab decision making.

Concerning peace process, the memorandum said that the United States was committed to push the peace process forward and support the holding of an "Israeli"-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo. It pointed out that during the past months, the United States had taken a remarkable step forward towards holding this dialogue and legitimizing direct "Israeli"-Palestinian negotiations, confirming that such policy would bring better results in the short run.

The memorandum emphasized that the call for an immediate international conference would undermine any progress achieved so far. It expressed the U.S. Administration hopes that the Arab leaders would evade excessive harsh language during the summit, urging them instead to bend [as received] on a constructive policy enhancing an effective move on the road to peace.

In this memorandum, the U.S. Administration confirmed its willingness that the Arab leaders would voice full support for the Palestinian and Egyptian efforts for an "Israeli"-Palestinian dialogue, giving up all stances adopted during Casablanca summit in May 1989 through accepting the principle of peace with Israel. The memorandum made it necessary for the Arabs to shore up not only the Nov. 1988 Palestinian peace plan, as was the case in Casablanca, but also President Yasir 'Arafat's statements in Dec. 1988, recognizing "Israel's" right to exist and approving the U.N. Security Council Resolutions No. 242 and 338.

It pointed out that pursuing a policy with a future prospects would convince Israel and other countries of the Arabs' adherence to peace. [sentence as received]

As for the Zionist settlements, the memorandum said: "we strongly opposed the settling of settlements in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 for we publicly announced our stance towards this question and expressed our point of view during our talks with the Israelis. At the same time, we emphatically said that Soviet Jews' right to emigrate was part of the basic human rights and that the Soviet Jewish emigration should be viewed within this context".

The memorandum found it important not to mix between the settlement question and the emigration to Israel which the United States considered as a legitimate process. It hoped that the summit would not issue a statement denying the Soviet Jews' right to emigrate or opposing "Israel's" main interests from housing them inside "Israel". It further added that contrary to the

reports that had been circulated in the Middle East and other parts of the world, the United States had not closed the doors before the Soviet Jewish immigration, but rather, it received more than 40 thousand [40,000] immigrants, a number much more larger than that of last year.

On Lebanon, the memorandum said that U.S. Administration solidly backed Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi as well as the Arab League tripartite committee's efforts to carry al-Ta'if accord into effect, pointing out that the next summit would create a favourable climate for the Arab League to proceed with the committees positive endeavours. It pointed out that the best way to do so would be through a palpable Arab assistance to the Lebanese president. Elaborating that he would need such backing if he ever wanted to enforce his authority on Lebanon.

Regarding Iraq, the memorandum said that Iraq accused the United States of trying to gain the upper hand in the Middle East after the recession of the Soviet role in the region and of sparking a propaganda campaign against Iraq to prepare for an "Israeli" attack. Referring to the 'meaninglessness' of these accusations, it said that the United States admitted that Iraq had become an influential power in the world as it assumed a responsible role.

It expressed concerns over Iraq's attempts to "violate" the U.S. laws and over its "irresponsible" statements concerning the use of missiles and chemical weapons as well as its criticism of the U.S. "peaceful" presence in the Gulf. It also showed misgivings about Iraq's respect for its commitment to the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Treaty, the two 1973 agreements on biological weapons and 1925 protocol on chemical weapons.

In this respect, the memorandum said that the ongoing pressure arising from Iraq's actions in this field reflected the dangers from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the region, bringing to mind that the United States welcomed the Egyptian proposal calling for demilitarizing the Middle East and stressing that intensive and practical measures should be taken in support for this proposal. It was quite sure that efforts preventing the proliferation of these weapons would succeed, on the condition that means of supervising different kind of weapons must not be linked together. In this connection, it hoped that the Arab summit would avoid formal stances not serving the aspired goals.

"For example", the memorandum said, "we believe that creating a zone free from nuclear arms in the Middle East must not be a precondition for an over-all treaty on chemical weapons by which all countries in the Middle East abide, and we hope that the summit will call on all countries in the region to declare their intentions to join a chemical weapons treaty, currently under negotiations in Geneva".

On the hostages, the memorandum said that the United States wished that the recent release of hostages would be

a clear sign from their captors and countries backing them marking an end for such practises, confirming that the United States would not be a party to any negotiations on hostages and that it would continue its efforts to free them quickly and unconditionally.

It added that a firm resolution by the Arab summit in this respect would speed up the release of all hostages, stressing that such resolution would positively affect the U.S. viewpoint on the Arab League, referring to the U.S. national reaction to the release of the two American hostages which deeply impressed the U.S. public opinion.

With regard to other issues, the memorandum said that the final statement of Casablanca summit reflected a positive and serious turn compared to other statements released by previous Arab summits, but it said that it was clearly unbalanced in the way it "inserted" a direct point critical of the United States. It expressed the U.S. Administration's hopes that the next summit would evade such reference, for it claimed that such direct criticism would have no firm grounds on the one hand and that it would affect the U.S. preparedness to take the Arab summit resolutions seriously, on the other.

Paper 'Ridicules' U.S. Remarks on Summit

JN2305111890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0520 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that the Baghdad summit is the peace summit. Arab words and deeds are for peace. However, it is the peace of justice and right, and without right and justice there will be no peace summit regardless of intentions.

In an article, the paper adds: The Baghdad summit is a historic Arab response to President Saddam Husayn's frank and resolute warning to the Zionists and their allies.

The paper ridicules statements made by a senior U.S. official on the Baghdad summit to the effect that the Arabs should exclude the military option because they only have the peace option. It says: This is a falsification that we are used to hearing from the Americans when they speak about the Middle East crisis.

The paper stresses that this U.S. official's advice to the Arabs should have been addressed to the Zionist entity, and not to the Arabs, because the Zionists are still implementing a policy of daily aggression, threats, and expansion at the expense of the Arab nation. The paper affirms that the Arabs are now required not only to meet and reach understanding, but also to formulate a strategy to confront hostile threats to the Arab nation.

The paper points out that it is not a coincidence that Baghdad is the target of the campaign of hatred and rancor launched by the Zionists and their imperialist allies. It is also no surprise that the enemies draw plans

to carry out an aggression against Iraq at this particular time. Moreover, there is nothing new in having this firm and resounding voice come from Baghdad, and in having the Arabs meet in this lofty fortress.

The paper warns of the current stage through which the Arab nation is passing. It stresses that there is no time now for weakness, slowness, or retreat. It says: The aggression's tools, objectives, and intentions are very clear, and the danger is a comprehensive one. He, who among the Arabs believes that he is safe and far from the arena of the Arab-Zionist conflict, will lose his security and future, and he who believes that his country's destiny is not linked to Arab destiny as a whole is mistaken.

Saddam, 'Arafat Discuss Summit, Israeli Shooting

JN2105150090 Baghdad INA in English 1150 GMT
21 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, May 21, INA—President Saddam Husayn today received in audience president Yasir 'Arafat of the state of Palestine.

During the audience, several topics including special preparations and measures for holding the extraordinary summit in Baghdad next week were discussed. The audience also tackled escalation of the aggressive, terrorist and criminal operations of the Zionist entity against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories the last of which yesterday massacre that claimed the lives of several un-armed Palestinians in a desperate attempt to quell the surging Palestinian uprising which has been going on over the past two and a half years despite the brutal and oppressive measures of the enemy and its violation of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The audience was attended by Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy premier and foreign minister.

Paper Stresses 'Strategic Importance' of Summit

JN1505120590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0650 GMT
15 May 90

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that the Arab leaders' decision to fix the time and venue of their extraordinary summit in Baghdad is an expression of the triumph of Arab political will over the threats to the Arab nation. In an article today on the positive results of holding the summit before the U.S. and Soviet presidents' summit, the paper says: The extraordinary Arab summit is of strategic importance because holding it will confirm the Arabs' determination that the world, through the two superpowers, hear their policies expressed in one Arab voice from Baghdad—a voice announcing the beginning of a new Arab age.

The paper says that holding the Arab summit at this particular time is the result of the Arabs' understanding of the seriousness of threats against them posed by

Jewish immigration to the occupied territories and the escalation of threats against Iraq by Zionist-U.S.-British circles.

AL-JUMHURIYAH expresses confidence that, at their extraordinary summit, the Arab leaders will adopt several historic resolutions. The most important of these will be to express Arab consensus on the need to formulate an integrated Arab policy for the future that will steer the outcome of their vital issues away from great-power influence, because it is their conviction that their nation's major issues are their business and their own affairs.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: What gives historic importance to the Arab summit is the fact that it proves that the Arabs must announce their clear stance on these two serious issues before they draft a confrontation strategy. This must be accomplished before the Soviet-U.S. summit so that the parties to that summit take Arab decisions seriously, in keeping with new facts that are being continually reinforced in this age of confrontation.

AL-JUMHURIYAH calls for building up Arab action to the level required by the challenges of the age. It stresses that the Arab nation has played its role in full in influencing the major powers regarding contribution to making the international decision. [sentence as received]

UK Arab Paper Interviews Ramadan on Summit

PM2305151390 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 18 May 90 p 3

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister and Revolution Command Council Member Taha Yasin Ramadan by Zaki Shihab at Ramadan's headquarters "several miles outside Baghdad"; date not given]

[Text] [Shihab] On relations with Syria, what effect will Syria's absence from the summit conference have on the result?

[Ramadan] We do not look at it that way. We know of more than one successful conference held without unanimity. This applies to the 1980 summit and other summits. True, we would like everyone to attend, but that does not mean that the summit would be hampered if there was no unanimity. What we should do, now that the Arabs have decided to hold the summit conference in Baghdad, is to provide all the necessary requirements and ethics of hospitality. Had the Syrian president decided to come to Baghdad he would have been accorded the same hospitality and security as any other Arab ruler.

We see no justification for viewing this as a reason to delay the conference or affect the extent of its success.

This is not a conference of reconciliation but a conference to face serious fateful challenges. Everyone is entitled to his opinion. We have said that, since Baghdad has been accepted as the venue for the conference, everyone

is entitled to state his position on the Palestinian question and define his attitude to Iraq if he so wishes. As far as we are concerned, that is a clear understanding. There would be no harm in adopting all formulas which provide the best possible circumstances so there would be no justification left for anyone to stay away.

[Shihab] Some view the Western campaign as a preparation for an Israeli military aggression. Does the Iraqi leadership have any tangible evidence of that?

[Ramadan] When President Saddam Husayn spoke on 2 April he was not just talking in general terms nor answering some rumor here or there.

President Saddam spoke from a position of responsibility. If we merely wanted to answer rumors we would have done so through a different source at a different level, but we have definite information that Israel is preparing for aggression. The outward evidence of that is now quite clear. Even ordinary people are beginning to detect it in [the presentation of] such issues as chemical weapons, the Kurds, Bazoof, and the capacitors and in the way they [the West] have addressed all these issues with the aim of creating an atmosphere of hostility to Iraq and then portraying Israel as savior of human rights from terrorism, and with the aim of striking at Iraq.

The plan is there and it is known. We are sure of that. That is why it was our duty to tell Israel: We see you advancing toward Iraq, so, for your information, if you did anything of that kind we would retaliate, but the retaliation would not be equal—the retaliation would be big and on a large scale.

[Shihab] Is Iraq's military retaliatory capability equal to or greater than that of Israel?

[Ramadan] We are fully confident that if Israel got involved [tawarrattat] [in an attack] it would meet its end in the land of Palestine. We have no doubt whatsoever about that.

[Shihab] Some reports speak of a secret agreement among the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] members on joint defense. How true are these reports?

[Ramadan] So far, there are no agreements. ACC agreement stems from full commitment to the Arab League agreement as stipulated in one of the provisions of the charter, but there is nothing separate, written or oral, among the four member states.

[Shihab] Are there any inclinations in that respect?

[Ramadan] There are meetings and discussions on security and military matters which come up in meetings and discussions.

[Shihab] The Turkish prime minister recently visited Iraq. What issues were raised? Was the Euphrates waters issue discussed?

[Ramadan] The Turkish prime minister's visit was basically made in the context of the regular and coordinated exchange of visits which has been going on between the two countries for years. One year I go to Turkey, the next he comes to our country for a follow-up and supervision of cooperation between the two countries and with a view to further developing this cooperation. However, the agenda of this visit was certainly different from previous visits.

The Euphrates issue was top of the agenda and it came before bilateral and economic relations. We emphasized to the Turkish friends that we must solve the Euphrates problem and reach agreement on water-sharing by the three states—that is, Turkey, Syria, and Iraq—as soon as possible. We explained to them that failure to reach a final solution acceptable to and in the common interest of the parties concerned would certainly affect Iraqi-Turkish relations and Arab-Turkish relations in general.

Iraqi-Turkish relations cannot fulfill all their potential if that issue remains unresolved. They now have the same understanding. We agreed that, as a first step, the irrigation ministers of the three states will meet in Turkey to discuss the matter. We will continue to follow up the results of every step taken.

[Shihab] What exactly were the contents of the Iraqi message to Iran and the reply to that message?

[Ramadan] Actually, the message was that, as two years have passed since the cease-fire began without any steps being taken toward the establishment of a permanent peace through international bodies, we believe that Iraq and Iran know their interests best. Therefore, to prevent further complication of the issue, the common interest necessitates a summit meeting between the leaders of the two countries to reach agreement on the main principles of a solution to the problem, so long as we advocate peace and are in agreement on Resolution 598.

We received the Iranian reply some days later and, although we have many observations to make regarding that reply, we will answer it. The meeting of the presidents of the two countries should be preceded by a meeting of representatives of the two presidents. A venue will be chosen. We agree to a preparatory meeting to precede the summit meeting. The matter of the venue has not been resolved yet. It is open to consultation.

[Shihab] How much progress and how much improvement has there been in the atmosphere between the two countries since the positive Iranian reply to President Saddam Husayn's message?

[Ramadan] It is too early to say that there has been fundamental change, but we say that a summit conference between the two countries would be a serious step and would be a beginning. Given good intentions, there is really no better alternative.

[Shihab] There have been hints by more than one Iraqi official about a review of domestic policies especially in relation to the question of a multiparty system. What is the latest on that?

[Ramadan] This matter has been decided. It covers the issues of the constitution, multiparty system, and a new press law with a view to promoting broader democratic practice. We could say that, technically, all these issues have been fulfilled, but the leadership is in the process of discussing the constitution and, as you know, the promulgation and approval of the constitution must precede all other steps because it covers all these matters. Then other laws will subsequently be introduced.

Once we in the leadership have completed our discussions on the constitution, it will be submitted to the National Assembly and then to a national referendum. Once it is approved, the laws on multiparty system and the press will then be issued. In principle there are no complications.

[Shihab] Is there any intention to resolve the question of the [Iraqi] opposition in Arab capitals?

[Ramadan] We have granted an amnesty more than once and we said that anyone wishing to return to the country would be welcome, but there is an insignificant group which falls into the category of those who collaborated with the Iranian enemy. There is no place for such people in Iraq and no place for them in the partisan life in the future.

[Shihab] On the question of the emigration of Soviet Jews, the ACC summit meeting in Amman decided that the ACC leaders would hold contacts and take action. What has been done in this connection?

[Ramadan] That matter was seriously discussed. It was basically agreed that the Arab position should be developed because it would not be enough just to say to the Soviet Union: Stop the emigration. That would not produce results, as statements made so far would indicate. It was decided that when the call for an Arab summit conference is made, this should be a main issue and should be tackled effectively.

[Shihab] Iraq has made some progress in the fields of military industrialization and technology, but can it do without Western expertise and capabilities, bearing in mind the pressure put on you by Western companies seeking to withhold these capabilities from Iraq?

[Ramadan] A state continues to need to benefit from the advanced states ahead of us, but we have overcome the stage where direct and necessary need could impede our progress. Even if a maximum siege was imposed on Iraq, it would not stop its technological development.

[Shihab] What is the truth about the pressures brought to bear on France by the Western states to stop it from helping Iraq build a new nuclear reactor to replace the Tammuz reactor destroyed by Israel in 1981?

[Ramadan] Yes, France has come under pressure from European states and Israel. That is why the rebuilding of the reactor has not been completed so far.

[Shihab] Have you, with your own capabilities, succeeded in building an alternative?

[Ramadan] We succeeded in some things, including the binary chemical weapon we announced.

[Shihab] You have reduced your oil [production] quota recently. What were the reasons for that decision?

[Ramadan] Let us be frank. We made that decision but we did blame some states for not abiding by the agreed quotas, which led to lower oil prices. Because that was detrimental to our interests, we acted at the Arab level and seriously raised the issue at OPEC so that prices could be reexamined and improved.

We reduced our quota out of conviction and we hope all sides will honor their commitment in the interest of the OPEC states without harming the consumer, because oil prices are low and not comparable to other commodities. That is not the way to discuss this matter. We should coordinate at Arab level and within OPEC.

[Shihab] In his speech at the popular solidarity conference held recently in Baghdad, President Saddam Husayn raised the issue of support for the Palestinian intifadah in the occupied territory. How precisely do you envisage that?

[Ramadan] I have no details, but this will be one of the issues to be discussed by the Arab summit conference. When we call for an Arab strategy in the face of the various challenges, one aspect of that would be how to ensure its [the intifadah's] continuity and steadfastness and how to support it by various means. There must be consultations among the Arab leaders to arrive at something suitable in this respect.

[Shihab] What, in your view, are the repercussions for the Arab world of the recent East European developments and how do you assess the current cooperation between your country and the two superpowers?

[Ramadan] Let us be realistic. The time when we had the Soviet Union and the Eastern camp on our side is now to a large extent over. That camp, headed by the Soviet Union, will be occupied with its own internal problems. That is a natural situation which calls for a stand by the Arabs. The Arabs should reconsider all their positions. One of the most important points is that the Arabs should develop and increase their self-reliance, which can only be achieved through more cooperation, integration, and consultation. It does not, however, mean that we should forget our relations with the Eastern states, which we should call neither communist nor socialist. We should not leave the arena to Israel or to the enemies. We should develop our contacts with Japan, China, and

Germany after unity and with all the world, but we must above all develop our own intrinsic capabilities to earn the respect of others.

[Shihab] Has an alternative venue to Baghdad been proposed for the summit conference?

[Ramadan] No, there was much talk but, as you know, the call by the state of Palestine was for an emergency summit conference in Baghdad. We only responded to that call after the approval of 13 states. It was our duty to say that our country is open to the brothers.

Minister Denies 'Behind-the-Scenes Mediation'

JN2005165890 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic
19 May 90 pp 1, 28

[Text] In a telephone call to editor in chief Ahmad al-Jarallah, Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has stated that contacts between Iraq and Iran are known, public, and direct, and do not need mediation from any other party.

The Iraqi minister was commenting on a report published by AL-SIYASAH on Thursday, 22 May 1990, which said that a summit between Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani will be held in the near future in Moscow following behind-the-scenes U.S. arrangements that succeeded in bringing the viewpoints of Baghdad and Tehran closer.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim added that as far as this subject is concerned, his country does not need behind-the-scenes mediation from anyone. He recalled that the Iraqi leadership was the first to call for keeping the big powers and their acts of intervention away from the region's crises, and to leave the treatment of these crises to regional efforts—especially through direct appeals to Tehran to make peace and turn a new page in relations with Iraq—because "the West does not wish good to either Iraq or Iran at the same time."

The Iraqi minister expressed the hope that AL-SIYASAH was not hoodwinked into publishing the report at the time when Baghdad is busy preparing to receive the Arab kings and presidents, who will arrive to attend an extraordinary summit to study the threats facing the nation and ways of confronting them.

Concluding his telephone call to the chief editor, Latif Nusayyif Jasim stressed that direct messages are being exchanged between Iraq and Iran to open a new page in relations between the two neighboring countries. He added these messages are being announced through official channels. He expressed the hope they will result in bilateral meetings without any behind-the-scenes arrangements and secret diplomatic efforts, either by the United States or any other party.

'Great Scientific Achievement' To Be Announced

JN2305200090 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic
22 May 90 pp 1, 25

[By Shakir al-Jawhari]

[Excerpt] Iraq will announce a great scientific achievement on 28 May, the day the urgent emergency Arab summit opens in Baghdad. This was divulged to AL-SIYASAH by well-informed Arab sources that are well-acquainted with how President Saddam Husayn thinks and with the way Iraq's momentous decisions and great achievements are formulated.

According to these sources, it is possible that the achievement will be the launching of an artificial satellite and placing it in earth orbit. The satellite will carry out a number of scientific tasks and will constitute a practical response to Israel's launch of the satellite, Jericho-2. This announcement will come in the wake of the current psychological, media, and political campaign against Iraq by Israel, the United States, Britain, and other Western allies. [passage omitted]

Official on Jewish Immigration, Missile Sites

NC2305125190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Cairo, 23 May (MENA)—Nizar Hamdun, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, has expressed hope that Arab issues will have special priority on the agenda for the U.S.-Soviet summit to be held at the end of May. He noted that recent East European developments are causing the situation in the Arab region to be left off the list of priority issues.

In an exclusive interview with AL-MUSAWWAR magazine, to be published Friday [25 May], the Iraqi official said that the Arab summit which will be held in Baghdad on 28 May will constitute "a basic effort to draw attention to the importance of dealing with the explosive situation in the region."

On how to deal with the East European countries which are drawing closer to Israel, he said he believes that one of the tasks of the forthcoming Arab summit is to come up with clear and definite ideas on dealing with the countries of Eastern Europe in order to make them realize that their interests in the Arab world are important and may be harmed if they follow some irresponsible policies that are not in agreement with the process of establishing just peace and stability in the region.

On Soviet Jewish immigration to the occupied Arab territories and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's promise to reconsider the issue within the scope of preserving Arab rights, Nizar Hamdun called for exercising media and political pressure on many countries, including the United States, to persuade it to lift restrictions on the immigration of Jews to the United States. He explained that if this is done, these immigrants will prefer to settle in the United States.

On recent reports that Iraq has built missile launch pads at a base near the Iraqi-Jordanian border, Nizar Hamdun said that this is true and has been openly announced. He stressed that the aim is to deter Israeli aggression.

He denied that Iraq had searched for a site in Mauritania to launch long-range missiles in view of the fact that Mauritania has an Atlantic coast. He added that there is not the slightest proof that Iraq had tried to do this.

On the prospects for a permanent Iraqi-Iranian settlement, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary said that his country hopes to have negotiations with Iran as soon as possible. He added that every day that passes without a treaty being concluded between the two countries will prove costly.

Commenting on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's statement that Israel is willing to hold talks with the Arabs for the purpose of disarming the region, which came in response to the proposal for eliminating weapons of mass destruction from the region, Hamdun said that Iraq is willing to accept total regional disarmament. He added that Iraq had previously made such a declaration and noted that the ball is now in the court of other countries.

Pazner: Israel To Ask U.S. To Oppose Observers

TA2405045290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir's spokesman, Avi Pazner, says Israel will call on the United States to oppose any Security Council move to station international observers in the territories. The official says Israel has always rejected the idea of international observers, because this would be intervention in Israel's internal affairs and a violation of her sovereignty.

Israel's Embassy in Washington has released a statement saying the presence of observers in the territories is likely to increase tension rather than bring calm to the region. The embassy said the responsibility for law and order in the territories is on Israel's shoulders.

[In a similar report, Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0400 GMT on 24 May adds that "the Foreign Ministry will request clarifications from Washington on Secretary of State Baker's remarks that the United States will be ready to discuss the deployment of observers in the territories at the UN Security Council."]

Ambassador Bein on Proposal To Send UN Observers

TA2405074490 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 24 May 90

[Telephone interview with Yohanan Bein, Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, by Uri Paz and Gilat Levi in New York—live]

[Excerpt] [Paz] Good morning, Ambassador Bein.

[Bein] Good morning.

[Paz] To the best of your knowledge, will the United States support a decision to send a team of observers to the territories?

[Bein] I hope this report is not accurate. I am not sure that everyone who made statements on the issue of a group of observers, an observer team [preceding two words in English], rightly understands the significance.

[Paz] James Baker made statements on the issue.

[Bein] An observer team is not the same as a representative from the General Staff, or even the same as a commission of inquiry. It is a new and permanent delegation, much the same as the UN Interim Force in Lebanon or UNDOF [UN Disengagement Observation Force] in the Golan Heights, or similar to other forces in Namibia, Iran, Iraq, or Afghanistan. I can only hope that whoever made these statements was not referring to this.

[Paz] Mr. Bein, we are talking about no less a personage than the U.S. secretary of state. This seems serious.

[Bein] I know, I know. The question is whether serious thought was given to the significance of the term observer team [preceding two words in English], because

a new and permanent representation of this kind is part of the PLO's master plan. The plan is for an observer team to gradually assume the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] responsibilities, along the road to a Palestinian state. This is a line of thought that does not exactly correspond [laughs] to our way of seeing things. In fact, it is in total contradiction, and I assume we will fight it.

[Levi] If a proposal to dispatch UN observers to the territories is raised during the Security Council session in Geneva tomorrow and wins the support of the United States, it may be adopted.

[Bein] First of all, no draft proposal will be raised tomorrow in Geneva. There will be only one session in Geneva, with a number of speeches, and the draft proposals will only be voted on when the session is continued here in New York next week. In other words, the idea may be floated tomorrow, and Arab speakers will undoubtedly raise the idea of an observer team or a commission of inquiry, as they have in the past. We have prepared a response to this, but the issue will not be discussed tomorrow.

[Paz] It will not be discussed officially, but what will happen if this proposal later becomes concrete and a resolution is adopted. How dangerous a precedent is this for Israel?

[Bein] A resolution of this sort is not dangerous. The dangerous part is if the United States does not oppose it. I imagine that the United States will oppose it, assuming that it actually does call for the dispatch of an observer team.

[Levi] Mr. Bein, Yasir 'Arafat is one of the people who will step up to the podium tomorrow. How will Israel behave during tomorrow's UN Security Council debate?

[Bein] The man with whom you are now speaking will also step up to the podium, and he will have a response.

[Paz] What will it be?

[Bein] You will hear it tomorrow. The response of course will be that, in general, this is a slanderous campaign directed against Israel by the Arab world and the Palestinians and a cynical manipulation of an incident perpetrated by a madman. [passage omitted]

Arens: UN Observers 'Will Not Enter Israel'

TA2405144190 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] At a Jerusalem news conference, Foreign Minister Arens referred to the possibility that UN observers might be sent to the territories.

[Begin Arens recording] I hope that the Security Council will not approve such a resolution. If, God forbid, it does, then the observers will not enter Israel. [end recording]

Arens described Israeli-U.S. relations as firm despite the recent pronouncements. The foreign minister commented on ties with Egypt:

[Begin Arens recording] For 12 years we have been trying to develop close relations between two neighbors, and we still have a long way to go before we can refer to Egypt as an ally as we do the United States. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 24 May adds that Minister Arens told the reporters he hoped Israel would be given the opportunity to make its views known to the U.S. Administration. Referring to the Arab summit which is to convene in Baghdad next week, Arens said: "The campaign against Soviet Jewish immigration recalls a similar campaign by the Arab world in the 1930's against the immigration of Jewish refugees who fled the Hitler regime."]

Netanyahu: UN Observers Would Be Opposed

TA2405142190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said Israel opposed the deployment of UN observers in the past and would oppose it again if such a proposal is broached. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that in a briefing arranged by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman, Netanyahu said that under international law Israel has the right to be responsible for the security of the territories, and insists on its right to act accordingly. He also said Israel is following with concern the Palestinian riots in Jordan, and pointed out that nobody has proposed sending observers there.

Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of staff, told the same forum that the deployment of observers in the territories is superfluous since the IDF is doing everything possible to permit the local population to live peacefully and without casualties. In reply to a question about what would happen if the deployment of observers were forced on Israel, the chief of staff said that was a political issue.

Foreign Minister Reacts to Bush, Mubarak Remarks

TA2305113190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1005 GMT 23 May 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens by political correspondent Arye Golan; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Golan] Minister Arens, last night President Bush called on the Israeli security forces and others to act with maximum restraint. Does this statement sound balanced to you, or does it contain an explicit rebuke to the Israeli forces alone?

[Arens] I do not want to supply interpretations of President Bush's remarks. I would merely like to add that yesterday we heard the State Department spokesman warmly compliment the Jordanian security forces, which

were similarly busy calming the area and restoring order. I think our security forces certainly deserve compliments after the very uncomfortable situations they had to face as a result of the reaction of the Arab population in the territories and in Jerusalem to the murders in Rishon Leziyyon a few days ago.

What bothers me is the possibility that this killing and its aftermath may be associated with the political process, as has already been attempted. Everyone understands that this deed is in no way connected to the government's composition and policy, or to the identity of the prime minister. I think, therefore, that any attempt to make such a linkage is mistaken and sometimes misleading.

[Golan] Would it be correct to say that the person who tried to make this linkage was in fact President Bush who, in his special statement last night, expressed the hope that a government capable of making decisions on the issue of peace will soon be formed in Israel?

[Arens] We share his hope.

[Golan] Will you be able to achieve a peace government with Gandhi [Moledet Knesset Member Rehav'am Ze'evi] aboard?

[Arens] I have no doubt that any government established in Israel will be committed to the Israeli Government's peace initiative endorsed about a year ago, and that it will make every effort to promote the peace process.

[Golan] On the subject of the intifadah: We have seen the intifadah spread eastward, to Jordan. Will you recommend that the government adhere to its past course of attempting to protect King Husayn, or is the present time perhaps an opportunity to allow Husayn to fall so that a Palestinian state may be established there?

[Arens] We do not interfere in the developments in a neighboring country, Jordan, and we hope King Husayn will be able to cope with the problems which he confronts at present. We ourselves have no influence over them. [Golan] President Mubarak said yesterday that the immigration to Israel is liable to spark a new war in the Middle East. What is your reaction to these remarks?

[Arens] I am very troubled by them, but I am willing to assume that they were made with the best intentions at heart, because everyone, both in Israel and in the world, knows that there is no connection between the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and the danger of war in the region. We are troubled, however, by attempts to create such a link, by the talk of a threat of war in connection with the immigration of Soviet Jews. When such remarks are uttered by the president of Egypt, they are liable to be interpreted as legitimizing aggressive acts by Arab rulers who have been speaking of aggression toward Israel, recently more than ever.

[Golan] Will Israel lodge a protest with Egypt over these remarks?

[Arens] Since we maintain peaceful relations, including diplomatic ties, we will take advantage of the existing channels of communication to relay our stand,

'Full Text' of Shamir Government Guidelines

TA1605054390 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
16 May 90 p A15

[Report by Menahem Rahat: "Full Text of the Government's Basic Guidelines"; all quotation marks as published]

[Text] Following are the basic guidelines of the government's policy drafted by the Likud:

- Recognizing the shared fate and common struggle for the Jewish people's existence in Greater Israel, the government will place immigration and absorption at the top of its missions.
- The government will take action to speed up immigration from all countries and to save persecuted Jews.
- The Jewish people's eternal right to Greater Israel is incontestable and is part of its right to security and peace.
- The main political objectives will be: Preventing war, enhancing security, and promoting peace. To that end, the government will take the following actions:
- Foreign and defense policy will be geared to securing the independence of the state, increasing its security, and maintaining peace with all its neighbors.
- The government will endeavor to increase the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] strength, its deterrent power, and its ability to resist any military threat, and will take firm action against any type of terror. The IDF and other security forces will continue to act firmly and diligently to ensure peace to all inhabitants, and to quell riots and violence.
- The government will continue to place striving for peace at the top of its concerns and will spare no effort to promote peace.
- The government will continue to pursue the peace process according to the framework for peace in the Middle East decided upon at Camp David and to promote all parts of its peace initiative from 14 May 1989.
- Israel will encourage representatives of the Arabs of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza to take part in the peace process.
- Israel will oppose the establishment of an additional Palestinian state in the Gaza District and in the area between Israel and Jordan.
- Israel will not negotiate with the PLO.
- Israel will call on Jordan to open peace negotiations.
- The government will take action to advance and enhance bilateral relations with Egypt according to the peace treaty. The government will call on Egypt to fulfill its part in the peace treaty with Israel.
- The government will endeavor to foster relations of friendship and reciprocal relations between Israel and any peace-seeking country; it will endeavor to enhance the relations of friendship and understanding between the United States and Israel and will take action to resume diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and to establish diplomatic relations with the PRC and other countries.
- United Jerusalem, the eternal capital of Israel, is one indivisible city under Israeli sovereignty; members of all faiths will continue to be assured free access to their holy sites and freedom of worship. Jerusalem will not be included in the framework of the autonomy that will be granted to the Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, and its Arab inhabitants will not participate in the elections to choose the representatives of the inhabitants of Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.
- Settlement in all parts of Greater Israel is a right and an inseparable part of national security. The government will take action to strengthen, expand, and develop settlements. The government will continue to abide by the rule that Jewish settlement should not cause the ouster of anybody from his land, village, or town.
- Economic and social affairs: reducing public consumption expenditures; expanding the rehabilitation of disadvantaged neighborhoods; effecting a reform in the civil service and local authorities; providing appropriate housing for young couples, immigrants, and large families; struggling to prevent emigration; bringing conditions in the Arab and Druze sectors up to par; hiring minorities for the civil service and public institutions; fighting road accidents; eradicating crime.
- Religion and state: "National unity and normal social life necessitate the fostering of mutual tolerance, bringing different sectors of the population closer, and allowing freedom of conscience and religious worship. The government will prevent any religious or antireligious coercion, will safeguard public religious needs, will uphold the freedom of religious worship and conscience of non-Jewish congregations and supply their religious needs, and will assure religious education to all children whose parents so desire; the status quo on religious affairs will be upheld."
- Education: will be based on the eternal values of the Israeli people, love of Israel and the motherland; the education system will foster respect for Israel's heritage and will strengthen relations between Israel and the diaspora."

The last clause in the guidelines asserts that "the government will abide by all of Israel's international commitments."

Last night, the religious parties expressed their appreciation with regard to the clauses dealing with the relations between religion and state.

[An analysis of the guidelines by the same correspondent on pages A1 and A2 in MA'ARIV adds: "Referring to reforms in the electoral and government systems, the guidelines state that 'this possibility will be looked into.'"]

Peres on Ties With U.S., Cairo Meetings

TA2403061190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 24 May 90

[Telephone interview with Labor Party Chairman Shimon Peres by Shalom Qital; place, date not given—live]

[Excerpts] [Qital] Good morning, Mr. Peres.

[Peres] Good morning.

[Qital] Before we discuss your visit to Cairo and the talks you held there, let us discuss this topical affair of the stationing of UN observers in the territories—a proposal which the United States has implied that it would support. What do you think of this?

[Peres] Of course we must oppose the stationing of UN observers, but this is not the issue. The issue is not this or that action on the part of the United States. The issue is the continuing and increasing deterioration in our relations with the United States. There is no point in latching on to this or that detail or isolated statement. It must be understood that today the peace process does not pertain only to Israeli-Arab relations, but also to Israeli-U.S. ties. We must face the fact that we proposed a peace plan, and the United States now believes that we are backtracking on it or, more correctly, that the current government is backtracking. This is what the argument is about. I would like to tell you that things are very serious and grim. We have reached a state of unprecedented isolation. I see it in Europe as well. This is not just a theoretical question about what LE MONDE or the London TIMES reports. The problem is what will happen to Israeli exports in the EEC. We must absorb immigration. We must accept reality. We cannot keep on deluding ourselves. The issue is Israel's international relations from the standpoint of its own interests. The matter is extremely serious; we should not take it lightly.

[Qital] Do you think the United States will cease worrying about the situation in the territories if there is a peace process?

[Peres] I think this is the only key to changing the situation. I know of no other key. Do you have any other suggestion? You know what the other suggestions are.

We launched a peace process. This improved our international standing and offset much of the criticism being leveled against us. The minute there is no peace process—and it makes no difference whether the prime minister or foreign minister assert that they are all for peace—the matter must be addressed in a concrete and realistic manner. There is no point in running away from it. We will find ourselves arguing our case before the world, but the world will turn a deaf ear to us. [passage omitted]

[Qital] Mr. Peres, it seems that a Labor Party delegation, headed by you, did not oppose the Socialist International resolution calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state?

[Peres] No. We had decided to boycott the vote, because had we participated we would have underscored our total and complete isolation. The compromise we eventually reached was that the issue would not be brought to a vote, thereby freeing us from the obligation of voting either for or against it. The resolution undoubtedly constitutes a further deterioration. We did our best....[changes thought] There were two important amendments, insofar as they can be considered important at all. The first amendment was that in the original formulation, a Palestinian state was presented as the only alternative. Later, in order to soften the decision, they said that a Palestinian state is only one of the alternatives and not the only one. Not that this is much consolation, but in light of our isolated situation, this was what could be done. The second important thing was that they called on the PLO to alter the Palestinian Covenant and stop all terrorist activities. This is the first time ever that the Palestinian Covenant has been discussed. I would like to tell you, however, that my heart bled to see traditional friends of Israel, such as the Scandinavian countries—the Norwegians, the Danes—adopting very extreme positions. No one was willing to argue our case. I have never seen anything like it. I have attended the Socialist International for many years, and although we were treated with respect, this does not change the fact that we have reached an unprecedented state of isolation and loneliness.

[Qital] Perhaps this was only a coincidence, resulting from the tragedy involving the madman in Rishon Leziyyon who shot the Arabs?

[Peres] No, I do not think so. I do not think that this was the issue. We should not take things so lightly. I believe that the key is the peace process. The world is under the impression that the Arab side wants the peace process, is ready for it, and is willing to make compromises, while the Israeli Government is stubborn and intransigent. I do not want to argue the truth of this view; I am only describing the picture. Thus the Israeli Government is inviting all the criticism that is being leveled at it, and this is a very serious political mistake. I suggest that none of us just shrug this off.

I would like to make a statement: We must create jobs for immigrants. How can we do this? To create jobs we must increase exports. To increase exports we need different relations with Europe, because if Europe does not take into consideration the fact that we have to ship our produce by air and sea, which raises the price from the outset, we will not be able to compete and expand. The United States helps us primarily on the security level; it also helps us financially and politically. We must not belittle this. We must not take things for granted. This or that statement from the Prime Minister's Office may be good for domestic consumption, but it does not alter the fact that things are deteriorating and that U.S. spokesmen have clearly warned of this trend. If the United States were to demand that Israel withdraw from the territories or relinquish Jerusalem....[changes thought] but this is not what it is demanding. It is saying that Israel must return to the peace initiative it itself formulated, and this demand cannot be ignored.

[Qital] Thank you, Mr. Peres.

Boy Killed in Gaza Strip; More on Incidents

TA2405055190 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in English*
0400 GMT 24 May 90

[Excerpts] An eight-year-old boy was shot in the head and killed last night in the village of Bani-Suhaylah in the Gaza Strip. The child, Mustafa al-Fajim, was hit by bullets fired from inside an Israeli car. He was brought to al-Nasir Hospital in Khan Yunus and then to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, where he died of his wounds. It is unknown at this time whether the vehicle was military or civilian.

A firebomb was thrown at a car traveling on the Pisgat Ze'ev-Neve Ya'akov highway north of Jerusalem last night. The bottle smashed on the road and caught fire, but no one was hurt and there was no damage. [passage omitted]

Two buses carrying schoolchildren were stoned near Canada Park not far from Latrun yesterday. Ten pupils were lightly cut by flying glass.

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 24 May in a report on pages 1 and 12 by Matthew Seriphs and Joshua Brilliant adds that "Palestinian sources" reported that six people were admitted to hospitals in the Gaza Strip yesterday. The Israel Defense Forces, IDF, had "no reports of wounded in the area. Petrol bombs were thrown at IDF patrols in the Gaza neighborhood of al-Shaykh Radwan, and soldiers were attacked at the Bet Romano complex in Hebron, home to Jewish settlers in the Arab heart of the town. No injuries were reported." The report adds that in the Nabulus area, "two people had been injured, one in Huwwarah, the other in Bayta. An IDF spokeswoman confirmed the injuries saying they had both been shot by plastic bullets, and that one had been masked."]

Two Die in West Bank; Explosion Near Jericho

TA2405103090 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0900 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] A 15-year-old youth, Muhammad al-Halhuli, was killed last night in the village of Qibya near Ramallah. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the youth sustained severe injuries to the head and was rushed to the hospital in Ramallah, where he later died. The body was snatched from the hospital, and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has launched an investigation. Our correspondent pointed out that the youth may have been injured when a group of residents from Qibya and the adjacent village of Budrus hurled stones at an IDF installation.

An improvised explosive charge was hurled at the Elisha' outpost near Jericho. No one was hurt, and no damage was caused.

Muhammad Mish'al from Jabal al-Mukabar, south of Jerusalem, died this morning in al-Maqasid Hospi'al in East Jerusalem. His family claims that he died as a result of tear gas inhalation. The Jerusalem police say that no tear gas was used near the man's home, and therefore an autopsy must be performed on the body. The dead man's family has refused, however, and a Jerusalem Magistrate's Court judge has complied with their request.

Reaction to Rishon Leziyyon Killings Continues**Attacks on Breweries, Factory**

NC2205204490 Paris AFP in English 2026 GMT
22 May 90

[Text] Amman, May 22 (AFP)—A group of demonstrators, believed to be Muslim fundamentalists, ransacked breweries and another factory producing alcohol in a town near Amman, witnesses said. They attacked two breweries and a factory for arak, an Arab alcoholic spirit made from grapes or dates, in the town of Rusayfah, 20 kilometres (12 miles) northeast of here, an employee at one of the breweries said. An anonymous telephone caller to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE said he took part in the demonstration, alongside other residents of the Palestinian refugee camp of Hittin, near Rusayfah.

The incident came amid a wave of pro-Palestinian demonstrations around Jordan since Monday [21 May], in protest at the killing of eight Palestinians by an Israeli gunman Sunday [20 May] near Tel Aviv.

Demonstrators in Hittin opened fire at police earlier Tuesday, wounding an officer. One person was killed by a protester who fired a rifle, Jordanian officials said.

Witnesses said the demonstrators in Rusayfah also set ablaze cars and attacked local cafes and restaurants. The owner of an Arak factory, Samir Midhyib Haddad, contacted by AFP, said black smoke hung over the town's industrial sector, where several factories produce alcohol. The demonstrators overpowered guards at the factories, hurled rocks at the shutters and forced their way inside to ransack anything in their way, Mr. Haddad said.

The attacks coincide with a rise of Islamic fundamentalism in Jordan, where fundamentalists won more than a third of the 80 seats in parliament at elections last November.

Islam bans the drinking of alcohol.

Leaders Urged To Heed 'Anger'

JN2305114390 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
23 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Time for Calm, Collected Reaction"]

[Text] The Sunday massacre of Arab workers in Israel can still be the spark that should galvanise the entire Arab World into meaningful and positive action. With the Baghdad summit just on week ahead, the killing of Palestinians by an Israeli "degenerate," the Palestinian cause is poised to top the Arab leaders' agenda when they convene their extraordinary summit May 28. As it has been said over and over again, the Israeli atrocities against the Arab peoples everywhere, especially against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and the continued trampling on their legitimate and inalienable rights is attributable first and foremost to continued Arab inaction and deep division on major issues and

dangers that threaten the Arab Nation. The noise that the Arab peoples have been hearing lately to the effect that the Arab capitals are seeking U.N. resolutions on the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is obviously not the kind of action that they are yearning for or aspiring to. Lest the Arab leaders continue to misread their peoples' sentiments, they are better advised to take note of the massive anger that is sweeping through the entire Arab World against traditional Arab summits, the resolutions of which often wither away as soon as the leaders head home.

The ongoing surge of Arab euphoria on the eve of the Baghdad summit is more superficial than real. Unless and until the Arab leaders fundamentally change their course and perspectives about what really should be done to resolve major Arab issues, there is no way they are going to win the confidence and the faith of their peoples. In all honesty and fairness, the Arab peoples' attention is focused more on the Arab countries that have the clout and strength to do something meaningful about the sorrowful state of Arab affairs. The onus of responsibility naturally falls on the shoulders of mighty Arab states and the anger and fury of the Arab masses would logically be directed against them if they fail the Arab World once again.

There is little doubt now that the summer of 1990 is destined to be one of the hottest seasons ever confronting the Arab World. The approaching Arab summit will serve as an ample venue to test the will of the Arab leaders in the face of the dangers and challenges confronting the nation. If the Arab leaders fail to arrive at resolutions for a serious reaction to these dangers and challenges, Arab history would not be merciful in assessing their leadership. By the same token, Arab reaction to Israeli atrocities must continue to be channelled in the right direction. There is nothing worse than having the Arab masses fan out their anger in the wrong direction or allow extremist opportunities to exploit their rightful fury for their own selfish purposes. This is a time for a calm and collected reaction that stand to reap tangible results for the Palestinian cause.

'No Confrontations' in Hittin

JN2305135290 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 23 May 90

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Cautious calm prevails throughout Jordan on the third day of demonstrations that broke out following the killing of eight Palestinians at Rishon Leziyyon.

Today, about 1,000 demonstrators left Hittin camp toward al-Rusayfah city but changed direction when they saw security forces stationed at the entrances of the town. There were no confrontations.

Yesterday, demonstrators from the Hittin camp attacked alcoholic drinks distilleries and damaged their front walls. They also damaged two restaurants selling alcoholic drinks.

Also yesterday, demonstrators in the capital attacked four liquor stores and broke their windows in the al-Ashrafyah and al-Musdar areas east of the capital.

Political sources believe the citizens have had sufficient opportunity over the past two days to express their sentiments of indignation and denunciation of the Rishon Leziyyon murders. These sources do not rule out the possibility that certain quarters might exploit the democratic atmosphere in Jordan and the freedom of expression to instigate riots and sedition in the country, especially if the confrontations continue.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran has warned against attempts to divert attention from Israel's practices in the occupied territory and against stirring up events in Jordan. He affirmed his government's determination to use all measures necessary to maintain law and order.

Calm Returns to Cities, Camps

JN2305153990 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1445 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Irbid, al-Zarqa', 23 May (PETRA)—Life returned to normal in the city of Irbid today after yesterday's marches and demonstrations protesting the Israeli massacre of Palestinian workers.

Schools and universities resumed classes in an orderly manner and shops reopened. All aspects of life are proceeding normally.

Many citizens expressed their concern to keep Jordan an oasis of security and stability and a distinguished example of national unity.

Calm also returned to al-Zarqa' after the city's streets witnessed peaceful student marches that broke up quietly without any violations of the law.

Total calm prevailed over al-Baq'ah camp and life returned to normal after two days of popular marches in the camp to denounce the bloody massacre of a number of Palestinian workers near Tel Aviv on Sunday [20 May].

The camp's main streets, which are lined with shops and popular markets on both sides, began normal activity early this morning. Residents of the camp went about their business and students went to their schools according to the citizens' accustomed daily routine.

Despite the fact security units in the camp had information about a small number of gatherings cropping up every now and then in various areas of the camp, nevertheless, these gatherings broke up quickly and of their own accord without resulting in any signs of wanting to renew the marches or law-breaking.

At noon today, al-Baiqa' Governor Fahih al-Gharaybah, accompanied by the head of the police department, went on an inspection tour of the camp. They also met with camp figures for a while.

Protesters Fire On Security Forces

NC2305185690 Paris AFP in English 1823 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Amman, May 23 (AFP)—Palestinian refugees opened fire at security forces outside a camp north of here on Wednesday, as hundreds of youths stoned the policemen injuring two of them, correspondents said. The violence came hours after some 1,000 marchers set off from Hittin, 15 kilometers (nine miles) north of Amman, and headed for al-Rusayfah to protest Sunday's killing in Israel of eight Palestinians by a lone Israeli gunman.

Security forces, backed by anti-riot vehicles, had prevented them from approaching the village. Demonstrators, believed to be Muslim fundamentalists, Tuesday [22 May] ransacked there three breweries, bars and restaurants serving alcohol. After their failed bid to march on al-Rusayfah, refugees from Hittin demonstrated inside the compound, opened fire on security forces ringing the camp to prevent unrest and pelted them with stones, correspondents said. The security forces, without orders to return fire, retaliated with tear gas grenades.

MP's [members of Parliament] from the Muslim Brotherhood meanwhile called for an end to the demonstrations that have shaken Jordan since Monday [21 May] to protest anti-Arab violence in Israel, leaving a trail of blood and destruction. In a statement the MP's expressed "regret that certain sick minds are trying to deform the healthy image of the country ... and to undermine its unity by provoking dissension." The Brotherhood deputies accused the United States of being the "number one enemy of Arabs and Muslims" and urged Arabs to boycott U.S. goods and to close American bank accounts. They urged Arab leaders meeting at a summit in Iraq next week to adopt a military-political-economic plan "to confront" Israel and to support Palestinian uprising.

Labor unions and pro-Palestinian groups earlier urged further protests.

Officials said two were killed and 25 wounded in demonstrations Monday and Tuesday here as well as in refugee camps near Amman and in the northern town of Irbid. Independent sources have said 50 people were hurt in the confrontations between demonstrators and security forces.

A senior Jordanian official said further protests would be "unjustified" and serve only to turn attention away from the Israeli-occupied territories. Reliable sources said the government believed that unnamed parties were using

the protests to destabilise Jordan and blamed dissident Palestinian groups based in Syria.

Abu-Yusuf, a Palestinian official, said that the dissident group of Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command of Ahmad Jibril had hundreds of partisans at the al-Baq'ah Palestinian camp north of here. Other sources said non-residents of al-Baq'ah were responsible for inciting inhabitants of the camp to block a major highway linking Amman to Damascus with burning tyres on Monday and to protest inside the compound.

Further on Hittin Clash

NC2305193590 Paris AFP in English 1920 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Amman, May 23 (AFP)—A young man was killed and four other people wounded Wednesday in clashes between demonstrators and security forces in the Hittin Palestinian refugee camp north of here, police said.

The 22-year-old victim was killed by a stray bullet, a police spokesman inside the compound said.

A woman who lives near the camp, 15 kilometers (nine miles) north of Amman, was wounded by another stray bullet and three policemen were hurt, including one who was attacked by a dagger-wielding demonstrator.

More on Hittin Death

JN2305194590 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpts] Following protest marches in the past two days denouncing the massacre committed by Israel against Palestinian workers last Sunday [20 May], life has returned to normal and calm prevailed today in Amman and all cities and camps of the Kingdom, except in some specific locations.

JORDAN NEWS AGENCY correspondents have said all shops reopened and things returned to normal. In Amman, the situation was calm except for a student march through the streets of al-Husayn camp and the Jabal al-Husayn area, and was dispersed calmly. Another student demonstration through the al-Wihdat camp streets was also dispersed peacefully. [passage omitted]

Despite the calm atmosphere, Hittin camp, 20 kilometers northeast of the capital, witnessed some disturbances: Demonstrators attacked buildings in the camp smashing the glass. They also burned tires inside the camp and fired shots into the air.

[Amman Television Service in English at 1800 GMT adds: The disturbances in Hittin resulted in the death of one person and the injury of five others, including two police officers. The JORDAN NEWS AGENCY said investigations showed that the dead man was shot at by a weapon not used by the police.]

Deputies Ask End to Marches

JN2305221690 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Deputies of the Islamic movement and Muslim Brotherhood in the House of Representatives issued the following statement today: The criminal act committed by a spiteful Zionist is a continuation of the massacres by criminal Jews on the pure soil of Palestine at a time when the intifadah of our people is continuing and its activities are escalating.

This incident has caused anger and pain in the hearts of Arabs, Muslims, and every free, honest human being. It was natural that our response here—being near to al-Aqsa—would be rapid, honest, and strong. Therefore, we have seen the massive marches and demonstrations that spread all over our Jordan as a true expression of our pain over the oppression and injustice befalling our kinfolk, and a denunciation of all manifestations of indifference and submission that characterize the reaction of many people to the criminal aggression supported by the United States and all the evil forces in the world.

It is regrettable some sick people have tried to tarnish the pure, holy image through hands that have attempted to damage property and harm the unity of our people by instigating insurrection and working, either on purpose or out of naivete, to tear apart our internal front and weaken our steadfastness against challenges and dangers.

Therefore, we call on our kinfolk to stop all marches and not to allow ignorant people or infiltrators to harm our unity or interfere with our steadfastness. Every one of us should be an honest guard. We should not allow any hand a chance to interfere or do damage. We should all devote ourselves to building up our steadfastness and readiness to face dangers.

The statement called on Arab leaders, meeting in Baghdad in a few days, to adopt a practical plan of jihad to face the Zionist danger. They also called for supporting Jordan in an honest way, since Jordan is the land of steadfastness and confrontation, a line of defense for the entire Arab nation, and the arena from which liberation will be launched.

They also called on Iran, in the name of Islamic brotherliness, to act quickly to eliminate the traces of the war that exhausted the energies of Arabs and Muslimism, and to work seriously to avert the Zionist danger. They also called on Islamic countries with relations with Israel to sever them.

Ending their statement, the deputies of the Islamic movement called on the sons of the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples to devote their efforts to fruitful action, constructive advice, and productive work, and not to damage our property and homeland, which we have established together to remain steadfast, to rise above all conspiracies, and to remain a thorn in the sides of those who are conspiring against the unity of its people and its land.

Camp Warns Against 'Civil War'

JN2305223090 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1552 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Brothers, our correspondent in Amman says the nationalist forces in al-Wahdat [Palestinian refugee] camp have issued the following statement after the events at the camps [in Jordan]:

To our Arab masses in Jordan; to our masses in the camps. Lest we implement the plots of the Zionist entity and the imperialist circles, we say: No to Arab-Arab confrontation; no to spilling Arab blood, except in confronting the Zionist entity. Yes to peaceful solidarity with our people's intifadah in Palestine.

Our heroic people's intifadah in the occupied homeland is escalating daily despite the massacres perpetrated by the Zionists. The intifadah, not only makes us proud, but is the source of pride for the Arab nation and is leading the struggle against the fascist Zionist existence and its American allies.

O masses of our people. While renewing our pledges to our heroic people in Palestine, we pledge to you we will be true to the blood of our martyrs. We offer our blood and lives as a fuel to continue and escalate the intifadah through unceasing struggle for a unified Arab position and for opening Arab borders to fedayeen action with the aim of deciding the battle and inflicting defeat on the Zionist entity and its imperialist allies and liberating the entire Palestinian Arab territory. We call on you to lend all forms of support to our great people in Palestine, including mass rallies and peaceful marches. Beware of those who try to create justifications for clashes with the Jordanian security forces. Such clashes will only serve the Zionist entity and consecrate the abhorrent intolerance that can only weaken and hamper our people and intifadah.

The statement said:

To our masses in the camps. In view of our people's heroic steadfastness in all areas of the occupied homeland and in view of their dear sacrifices, we appeal to you to abort all attempts by those who are bent on sowing discord among our united people. This can be done by rejecting the plot of the alternative homeland and

affirming that Palestine is the homeland. We urge self-restraint and we refuse to be dragged into a destructive civil war. We must be united against the Zionist entity.

While affirming the right of our masses in the Arab homeland to more public freedoms and democracy, we call on our people in the camps to follow the resolutions issued by the national leadership, which groups all the struggling forces, out of our absolute faith in our Arab people's unity from the Arabian Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean in the face of the Zionist and American arrogance.

Glory to the martyrs of the Arab nation.

[Signed] The nationalist forces in the al-Wahdat camp.

Chief of Staff Receives Soviet Military Official

JN2305213990 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Staff General Fathi Abu-Talib, chief of staff, received at his office this morning General Kleymenov, deputy chief of staff of the Soviet forces and his delegation.

They reviewed the military situation in the region, areas of cooperation and coordination, and issues of common concern.

The meeting was attended by a assistants to the chief of staff and the Soviet military attache in Amman. The guest and his delegation also heard a briefing on the development of the Armed Forces.

Syria Said Behind Group's Infiltration Attempt

JN2305173190 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1630 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Observers said in Amman today that the attempt by the Fatah dissident Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group to infiltrate from Syria into Jordanian territory on 21 May shows that Damascus wants to tell Amman not to voice excessive support for Iraq during the imminent urgent Arab summit. A terrorist affiliated with the Abu-Musa group was killed and another wounded in the infiltration attempt. The observers added Syria wants also to highlight the participation of pro-Syrian organizations in the intifadah in the territories. It is possible Syria wants to escalate the riots by Palestinians in Jordan to warn Amman against strengthening its relations with Baghdad.

Envoys to Damascus Discuss Arab Summit Issues*NC2005132990 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1245 GMT 20 May 90*

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi dispatched his adviser attorney Faris Buwayz to Damascus yesterday where he met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. Khaddam also met with Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss' envoy Ambassador Suhayl Shammās [the Foreign Ministry secretary general], who returned to Beirut last night.

Sources said that the two Lebanese envoys and the Syrian official discussed ways to avoid excluding Lebanon from the Arab summit agenda even if Lebanon does not participate in the summit. They also discussed how to achieve unanimous Arab support for Lebanon and the al-Ta'if agreement, and how to enact the Saudi monarch's initiative for a solution in Lebanon.

Islamic Figures Call for Unity Against 'Zionist Enemy'*NC2305113390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 23 May 90*

[Excerpts] In response to a Hizballah call, a massive march started yesterday afternoon in front of Imam al-Rida mosque in B'ir al-'Abd. Delegations representing Islamic, Lebanese, and Palestinian nationalist forces and prominent Islamic figures took part in the march, as did thousands of brothers and sisters. The march proceed through the streets of the Southern Suburb streets to Imam Khom-eyni square, may his name be hallowed, in 'Ayn al-Sikki.

His Eminence Shaykh Na'im Qasim called on all honest Arabs, Lebanese, and Palestinians to form a united front to confront the enemy in a holy jihad. He rejected all the plans for a settlement which are espoused by the regimes and organizations, adding that any settlement is a plot against the Islamic issue in Palestine. Shaykh Qasim called for an end to all peripheral battles and internal sedition, adding: Leave us to fight Israel alone and do not impose burdens on us by preventing us from fighting the Zionist enemy because our strategy is clear and the blood of our martyrs is proof of this. His eminence hailed the strategic alliance between the Islamic Republic of Iran, Syria, and all honest mujahidin to fight Israel. He called for strengthening this alliance to expel the occupying enemy.

His Eminence Shaykh Sayyid Barakah said that the massacre is a clear message from the United States for the Arab summit and gives the Arab leaders an excuse for reviving the initiative of Mubarak, Egypt's second al-Sadat, to abort the intifadah. He added that the martyrs and heroes will trample on the defeated Arab and Palestinians masters until the banner of Islam is hoisted over the skies of Palestine.

A similar rally was held by Hizballah in Ba'labbak in support for the intifadah and for the Muslim youths who

are confronting the most potent tools of repression with their bodies. [passage omitted]

Addressing the rally, His Eminence Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin said: What took place in Palestine was not the first and will not be the last. The massacre in Palestine was committed by world arrogance and not only by the Zionists. It was a calculated step which is part of a plot. His eminence went on to say: Our fate as Muslims is in grave danger but we are the stronger. He stressed that the real threat to Israel began with the victory of Islam in Iran. [passage omitted]

General Strike, March Protests Israeli 'Crime'*NC2305115190 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] A general strike was observed today throughout Lebanon areas to express solidarity with the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territory and denounce the ugly crime which resulted in several of them being martyred and others wounded.

In response to the call for a general strike, all public and private establishments in the capital shut down. Lebanese and Palestinian processions marched through most streets in the capital. The marchers gathered in front of the Arab University at around 0930 this morning and later proceeded to the UN headquarters in the Bi'r Hasan area and the cemeteries for the martyrs of the Sabra and Shatila massacre.

The Bank of Lebanon, other banks, the stock market, and financial establishments closed down in response to the call for the strike. A bulletin on the prices of foreign currency and gold was not issued.

Fadlallah Departs for Tehran, Moscow Visits*NC2205124490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 22 May 90*

[Text] 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has left for Tehran to attend an Islamic intellectual conference. He will then travel to Moscow.

Ja'ja' on Cease-Fire, Normalization of Situation*NC2205211090 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1845 GMT 22 May 90*

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' has stated that a cease-fire agreement has been reached and that it has also been agreed to begin normalizing the situation and to begin discussion of all matters.

In an interview to be published by AL-DIYAR tomorrow, Ja'ja' stressed that by his continuing fight against the legitimate government, General 'Awn only harms himself and the homeland and might thus contribute to the disappearance of Lebanon. Ja'ja' emphasized that this is an important point to which we must pay attention without ulterior motives.

Foreign Minister Receives U.S. Peace Group

JN2305220090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Damascus—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met this evening with an American delegation that includes a number of ranking U.S. figures. The delegation represents various U.S. organizations and institutions, including members of the U.S. Congress, media representatives, doctors, and businessmen who are visiting Syria under the slogan of pilgrimage for peace. The delegation is led by Senator Charles Percy, former head of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The foreign minister explained to the visiting delegation all the developments of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Syria's position on these developments.

He also answered all their questions.

Ministers Urge U.S. To Seek Comprehensive Peace

LD2405094690 Kuwait KUNA in English 0717 GMT
24 May 90

[Text] Kuwait, May 24 (KUNA)—The Arab ministers and a U.S. ambassador have agreed that the recent developments in the occupied territories further dimmed peace chances in the Middle East and urged the West, topped by the U.S., to help remedy the deteriorating situation in the region.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' told daily "AL-QABAS" that focusing on a partial solution to the Mideast problem is a "big mistake" and affirmed that the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue will only end in Israel's favor "and this has nothing to do with the comprehensive peace we seek to achieve."

Speaking to the same paper, Syrian Information Minister Muhammad Salman said: "Events of the past 48 hours showed that the policy toward holding bilateral negotiations cannot lead to peace in this region," urging the U.S. to shoulder its responsibilities toward ending the conflict.

He reasserted that U.N.-sponsored Middle East peace conference is the sole means toward realizing comprehensive peace and warned that "if any more time is wasted, there will not be any Palestinian side capable to think of entering direct negotiations or initiating a dialogue."

Salman also unveiled that the American Administration had sent an official memo to the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi urging the coming Arab summit in Baghdad not to endorse a resolution calling for an internal conference.

The memo stated: "We are still convinced that the best way to achieve progress is through a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. A call for an international conference will not lead to practical results and will also halt the progress achieved so far."

For his part, U.S. Ambassador in Damascus Eduard Djerejian, commented on his country's relations, which witnessed some positive change in the past couple of years, stressing that U.S.-Syrian consultations on Lebanon provided the backbone for the al-Ta'if accord, passed by the majority of Lebanese MPs last year.

He went on saying that Washington aims at realizing a settlement in Lebanon, but affirmed that the Bush Administration's main goal is to revive the peace process in the Middle East.

"We'll keep interfering in the Middle East. We realize that the absence of a peace process will lead to more violence in the occupied territories and will encourage the growth of all kinds of religious and political fanaticism and also the deployment of missiles," Djerejian indicated.

He denied that Washington wants to drive Damascus away from the Mideast peace process, adding that his government made this clear 11 months ago in a message to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from Secretary of State James Baker.

The said message also noted that Washington is "very serious" about realizing comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict on all fronts, including the occupied Golan Heights.

He also praised Syria's role in the recent release of two American hostages in Lebanon and said that this step had a positive impact on U.S.-Syrian relations.

U.S. Policy Said To Blame for 'Zionist Crimes'

JN2305170990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 23 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The United States declared yesterday, through its mouthpieces, that the absence of peace in the Middle East is the reason for the inevitability of continued violence in this region. Certainly, there is no disagreement whatsoever about the truth of this statement. When peace exists, what is the need for violence? In other words, Washington's logic is self-evident and adds nothing new. What is important, as usual, lies in what the United States did not say, or dare to say, about who is responsible for the obstruction of peace, and consequently, the continuation of violence.

Washington knows more than anyone else that what it terms violence in the occupied Arab territories, and what the rest of the world calls a heinous, bloody crime against innocent and unarmed people in the territories, is caused by Israel's recalcitrance that rejects peace, even a U.S. peace that is biased toward Israel, including the Baker plan. The reason for this is Israel's determination to cling to the occupied territories, expel its inhabitants, and settle the convoys of Jews to which the doors of emigration have been opened in East and West. If this is the

case, then why does the United States not state unequivocally who is responsible for the continuation of violence? Is it because of fear that such an open statement would affect the peace process, as they claim? Or is it because of the well-known and continuing U.S.-Israeli connivance?

Indeed, Washington is generous enough to allocate some of its humanitarian feelings to the Arabs when Zionist crimes against the Arab citizens increase to the extent of embarrassing the United States into taking a stand, even if in words only, on what is taking place. What the Arabs need, however, is not an abundance of humanitarian feelings. They want Washington to adopt a political policy, even a single position, which cannot be considered totally biased toward Israel, its aggressiveness, and crimes.

We will not discuss the obstacles Washington is placing, nor the position the United States is expected to take at the proposed Security Council discussions in Geneva on the Zionists' crimes in the occupied homeland. We will only refer to the recent Security Council deliberations on settling new Jewish emigrants in the occupied Arab territories, and Washington's obstruction of an international resolution condemning this settlement, under the pretext that such a condemnation might annoy Israel, and, consequently, harm the peace process. In order to avoid annoying Israel, there can be no objection if it continues its settlement activity, and there can be nothing to prevent Yitzhaq Shamir from defying and challenging the world and international will by reiterating, as he did yesterday, that Jerusalem will remain under Israeli occupation.

We wonder: Does this not mean that Washington is to blame for Israel's defiance of international will and its insults to world organizations' resolutions, through the cover Washington provides for the Zionists' policies by its weak and preposterous excuses?

After all this, the Arabs are still asked to believe that Washington's deceptive feelings are sincere. And after all this, we, as Arabs, are asked to believe that Washington truly seeks peace in our region, and hopes to put an end to the whirlwind of violence. The Arab people are tired of these U.S. policies and reject them. We have to say to Washington now, loud and clear, that it is no less responsible for the crimes against the sons of our people in the occupied homeland than the Zionist tools that carry out the crimes.

General Elections for People's Assembly Begin

'Considerable Turnout' Noted

JN2205205090 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in English 1800 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Citizens in the Syrian Arab Republic went to the polls today to elect fifth People's Assembly in an ideal climate of freedom and democracy. The assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party, Mr.

'Abdallah al-Ahmar, and other senior members of the party leadership, including Ahmad Qabalan, 'Ali Nassar, and 'Ali Zayyut paid inspection visits to the polling centers of numerous towns and villages in the rural districts of the capital. Among these were al-Tall, Duma, Harasta, 'Irbin, Darayya, Qatana, Sahnaya, and Zamalka. Crowds of citizens gave Mr. al-Ahmar and his colleagues a warm welcome and cheered the leader party, the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party, and its secretary general, President Hafiz al-Asad, who has laid the pillars of the people's democracy within the context of the Correctionist [as heard] Movement. Reporters speak of a festive mood in all these towns and villages as the inhabitants there went to cast their votes.

Mr. al-Ahmar cast his vote at the polling center of al-Tall. Mr. Ahmad Qabalan, member of the party leadership, voted at the Qatana center. Mr. al-Ahmar spoke to the reporter of SANA at the conclusion of his inspection tour. He said he was impressed by the democratic climate that ruled the voting in all centers he had been to today. Mr. al-Ahmar also observed that there was a good turnout of voters, which emphasizes a good sense of duty.

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam cast his vote along with other senior members of the party leadership at the polling center of Sati' al-Husari High School in Damascus. These included the assistant secretary of the party, Sulayman Qaddah, and members of the party leadership, 'Abd-al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Tawfiq Salihah, Sa'id Hamadi, Wahib Tannus, Fayiz al-Nasir, 'Abd-al-Razzaq Ayyub, Rashid Akhtarini, and Ahmad Durgham, where they voted for the candidates of the Progressive National Front.

Vice President Mashariqah and members of the Central leadership of the Progressive National Front cast their votes at the Secondary School of Jawdat al-Hashimi center.

The prime minister, Mr. Mahmud al-Zu'bi, inspected the polling centers in the district of Dar'a accompanied by some officials. Speaking to the SANA reporter, Mr. al-Zu'bi expressed his great satisfaction with the considerable turnout of voters, and also with the democratic atmosphere at the polling centers. The prime minister also inspected the polling centers in the rural districts of Damascus, accompanied by the interior minister, Dr. Muhammad Harbah.

Mr. 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, member of the party leadership and candidate of the Progressive National Front went to Dar al-Salam School center, along with his colleagues on the list of the front. He said it is the duty of every citizen to take part in the national voting, and he was happy to see that citizens did carry out their duty, which reflects a high sense of responsibility.

The minister of information, Mr. Muhammad Salman, and senior members of the media, cast their votes at the offices of the Ministry of Information.

Elections Continue 23 May

JN2305083390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Elections for the fifth legislative term [of the People's Assembly] resumed at 0700 today. Voting will continue until 1400 today, at which time each committee will open its box and begin counting votes in the presence of candidates or their representatives after ensuring that the number of envelopes corresponds with the number of registered voters. Voting began at 0700 yesterday and continued until 2000.

Damascus radio correspondents' reports say that throughout yesterday, the 7,834 polling centers witnessed the voters' great responsiveness to exercise their national duty and right to elect their representatives to the People's Assembly in an atmosphere of freedom, democracy, and honesty.

There are 6.5 million eligible voters and 9,000 candidates, including 494 women, competing for 250 seats in the fifth legislative term of the People's Assembly.

Polling Ends, Count Begins

JN2305143990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpts] An information source at the Interior Ministry has announced that the elections for the fifth legislative term of the People's Assembly concluded at 1400 today, after two days characterized by free and honest competition among the candidates and by awareness, discipline, and a high sense of responsibility among the citizens.

The source said the excellent turnout for polling at the various electoral constituencies confirms the commitment of our masses to performing their duty and their right to elect their representatives to the highest legislative authority.

Our masses turned the People's Assembly elections into popular demonstrations and festivities through which they expressed their solidarity with our leading party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and its secretary general, struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad.

The source said that the polling committees began, at exactly 1400, to open the ballot boxes and sort out the votes after ensuring that the number of votes matched that of registered voters on the ballot lists. Some candidates, or their representatives, were present. [passage omitted]

The number of citizens entitled to vote for the People's Assembly elections is about 6.5 million voters. There were around 9000 candidates, 494 of whom are women. [passage omitted]

Comrade Dr. Sulayman al-Qaddah, assistant regional secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, accompanied by Comrade Dr. 'Ala'al-Din 'Abidin, treasurer of the Party's Damascus branch, toured polling stations in Damascus this morning to monitor the election process on its second day. [passage omitted]

Comrade Dr. Qaddah told SANA that this great and massive turnout for balloting in all Syrian governorates, whether yesterday or today, to elect the People's Assembly members for the fifth legislative term—which was done freely and with a high sense of responsibility—is an affirmation from the masses of our people of their great concern to practice their national duty in the atmosphere of trust, freedom, and democracy that exists throughout Syria.

He added that the great and massive turnout is the best expression of the support of our people's masses for the leadership of our great party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, under the leadership of the party's secretary general, leader Hafiz al-Asad.

He reaffirmed in his statement that the massive turnout and popular response to the vote in all governorates yesterday and today expresses the pride of our people in the popular democratic program and their adherence to the popular democratic experience, which is a result of the glorious Corrective Movement whose bases were set by the leader of the country, the secretary general of the party, struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad. He has endowed it with all reasons for support and backing and made it truly a democratic experience to be followed and taken as an example. [passage omitted]

'Major' Cabinet Reshuffle Expected

PM2305145790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 23 May 90 pp 1, 2

[Zaki Shihab report: "Syrian Sources Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Al-Asad Considering Major Cabinet Reshuffle After Elections"]

[Excerpt] London—Informed Syrian sources have told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is considering a cabinet reshuffle shortly after the announcement, expected the day after tomorrow, of the People's Assembly's fifth legislative term election results.

The cabinet reshuffle, the sources said, will be a major one. They did not rule out the possibility of a new government to replace the current government of Mahmud al-Zu'bi. Traditionally, such changes occur in Syria after every full-term election.

Meanwhile, the turnout at the polling stations has been high. [passage omitted]

India

Charge d'Affaires Denies Meddling in Fiji

*BK2305144990 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] India has denied accusations that its embassy in the Fijian capital, Suva, had meddled in the island's internal affairs. Indian Charge d'Affaires Mr. (V.V. Bone), said in Suva that the expulsion order by the Fijian Government is unfortunate and has come as a surprise. He said India will stand by its commitment to the forces of democracy and multiracialism in Fiji.

As already reported, Fiji ordered the Indian charge d'affaires this morning to close the embassy within 24 hours and gave the embassy's Indian staff 14 days to leave.

Indo-Bangladesh Joint Commission Meeting Begins

*BK2105161890 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 21 May 90*

[Text] The two-day meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint economic commission began in New Delhi today. The Indian delegation is led by the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, and the Bangladesh delegation by its foreign minister, Mr. Anisul Islam Mahmud.

During the two-day meeting, both the delegations will review the progress of implementation of various decisions of the commission taken earlier. They will also review the entire gamut of bilateral matters, particularly in the fields of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, besides exploring the possibilities of further cooperation in new areas. The joint economic commission will suggest measures to improve cooperation between the two countries in the economic and technical fields.

Bangladesh Minister on Settlement of Kashmir Issue

*BK2305160690 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] Bangladesh has urged India and Pakistan to avoid confrontation on the Kashmir issue. The visiting Bangladeshi foreign minister, Mr. Anisul Islam Mahmud, has said that such a conflict would affect the other countries of the region as well. He was addressing a press conference in New Delhi today at the end of his three-day official visit to India. Mr. Mahmud hoped that the issue will be settled by both New Delhi and Islamabad through discussions and dialogue. Bangladesh does not want a war between India and Pakistan, he said.

During his stay, Mr. Mahmud and the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, cochaired the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission meeting. A

joint press statement issued later said during the discussion, India offered a fresh government credit of 30 crore rupees for Bangladesh for import of capital goods, machinery, and equipment.

Review of Kashmir Governor's Appointment Urged

*BK2305132290 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] Left parties in the Lok Sabha today urged the center to review the appointment of Mr. Jag Mohan as the governor in Jammu and Kashmir. The issue was raised by Mr. Saifuddin Chowdhury, CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], who alleged that the people in the valley are getting further alienated by the governor's handling of the situation. He was supported by members from other left parties who pleaded for sending the right signals to the trouble-torn state. Members from the National Conference, the Congress-I, and the Muslim League strongly criticized the governor's action. The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], however, opposed the demand, saying that the main issue of tackling the terrorists should not be lost sight of.

Minister: No Change in Missile Development Program

*BK2305035490 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] There is no change in the government's stand on missile development program, especially regarding Agni. Stating this in the Rajya Sabha yesterday, the minister of state for defense, Dr. Raja Ramanna, said undertaking of flight trials of Agni system is of a continuous nature. He also informed the House that Prithvi missile is likely to be on production from the middle of 1992.

Regarding advanced light helicopter, Dr. Ramanna said the project is expected to be completed by 1993-94 and the revised cost of the project is estimated to be over 285 crore rupees.

India, USSR To Boost Agricultural Cooperation

*BK2305161990 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 May 90*

[Text] India and the Soviet Union will strengthen cooperation in agriculture and agricultural research. This would include setting up of joint ventures, establishment of 100 percent export-oriented units, exchange of exports and promotion of scientific and technical cooperation in the agricultural research sector. This emerged from talks when the Soviet ambassador, Mr. V.F. Isakov, called on the deputy prime minister, Mr. Devi Lal, in New Delhi today. According to an official press release, a working group has been set up to monitor the implementation of long-term programs of cooperation. The group already has held two meetings in Moscow and in India. The agriculture secretary, Mr. S.K. Mishra, is leading the Indian delegation to the third meeting of the group being held in Moscow from tomorrow. The working group will prepare the new work plan for the years 1990 and 1991.

Punjab Governor: People Must Be Involved

BK2205035090 *Delhi Domestic Service in English*
0240 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] In Punjab, a new policy has been evolved to involve the general public in development work. As a part of this objective, the services of panches [village council members] and sarpanches [village council chiefs] of the villages, who represent the people at the grass roots level, will be utilized in development work as well as police administration.

Disclosing this in Kapurthala yesterday, the Punjab governor, Mr. Nirmal Kumar Mukherjee, said peace can be restored only by involving the people in the fight against terrorism, as people are opposed to terrorism and want peace in the state.

Meanwhile, nine persons, including three terrorists, have been killed in separate incidents in Punjab. Among the killed was a hard-core terrorist, Gurdeep Singh, alias Deepa, who committed suicide. Deepa was involved in a number of terrorist crimes in the state. Another hard-core terrorist was killed by a police naka [patrol] party near Dansinghwa Village in Bhatinda District.

17, Including Four 'Terrorists,' Killed in Punjab

BK2305145790 *Delhi Domestic Service in English*
1430 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] In Punjab, 17 persons, including four terrorists, were killed in separate incidents of terrorist violence since last night. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that three hard-core terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Sadiq area of Faridkot District and one in Khalra area of Amritsar District. In Ropar District, terrorists killed three caretakers of a religious place. Elsewhere in the state, six civilians were killed by terrorists in separate incidents.

Iran

Karrubi Receives Lebanese Hizballah Leaders

LD2305202590 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1630 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Mr. Karrubi, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Majles, received today the high-ranking delegation of Lebanon's Hizballah which is visiting Tehran. Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, secretary general of the Lebanese Hizballah, explained in the meeting the present situation in Lebanon, recounting problems of the Lebanese Hizballah. Then Mr. Karrubi praised efforts and wisdom of the Hizballah for resisting against problems and bringing about unity among the Shiites and said:

You are aware that from the beginning a plot was hatched to weaken and destroy Hizballah in Lebanon, that was to involve the Hizballah in internal fightings and to stop this sincere group confronting Zionism.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Majles, referring to the Zionist crimes, stressed: If devoted forces are united, they will definitely succeed in preventing Zionist's ventures.

Karrubi Urges Arab Embargo on Oil Sales to West

LD2305134390 *Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
1030 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpt] The Majles speaker, Mr. Karrubi, in his meeting today with a group of members of Islamic associations from universities all over the country, stressed the continuous and strong presence of Muslim students on the country's political stages. He then pointed to the role of Islamic revolution in today's world, and considered the alertness of nations the world over to be a result of Islamic revolution. He said: Global blasphemy has been mobilized for the sake of defeating Islam all over the world. For that reason, Muslims in Lebanon, Kashmir, and other parts of the world are suffering from most severe pressures imposed by arrogance. The Majles speaker then told the students: More than any other time, it is now necessary that revolutionary forces should be present on the scene. [passage omitted]

The Majles speaker then stressed the importance of ties between students from universities and religious seminaries. He considered the strong presence of students as one of the strong points of the revolution, while describing any attempt aimed at weakening the role of Muslim students in universities as a deviation and a danger to the revolution.

In conclusion, Mr. Karrubi referred to the forthcoming conference of Arab leaders in Baghdad, and the political influence that the United States has on the decisions taken in that conference. He said: If the Arabs really seek to do something for the oppressed nation of Palestine, in the conference's final resolution they must emphasize the struggle against Israel and [call for] an embargo on the sale of oil to the West, which supports Israel. [passage omitted]

Paper Expects Few Results From Arab Summit

NC2305071590 *Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL Weekly Edition in English* 12 May 90 p 2

[Editorial: "A Toothless Summit"]

[Text] Non-Muslim Arabs [as published] cannot help but express doubts about the whole idea of convening another Arab summit at the end of this month. The last time heads of states of the 22-member Arab League met in Casablanca, Morocco, a year ago, the Lebanese and Palestinian masses had felt betrayed. The official position at that time was that the May 1989 gathering was a turning point for Arab unity. The summit brought Egypt back into the Arab fold 10 years after Cairo was expelled for signing a separate peace treaty with the Zionist enemy.

It was in Casablanca that a three-nation (Algeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia) peace mission was set up to find a peace settlement in Lebanon in six months. Arab observers had no grounds for taking the mission seriously. And as it turned out, hundreds of Lebanese died following the Arab League initiative to end the '4-year-old conflict in six months.

With the Lebanese and Palestinian crisis on almost every Arab agenda, the situation in the two lands has yet taken a turn for the worse every time leaders meet behind closed doors to end Arab plight. Very rarely has an Arab League session, in the past decade ended, without stressing the need for:

- (1) mobilized effort to liberate territories under Israeli occupation.
- (2) returning peace to Lebanon through dialogue.
- (3) forge unity by patching up inter-Arab differences.

On the first two issues the track record is so embarrassing that one feels little hesitation to question whether or not some of the rich and influential Arab rulers have a role in conspiring against those oppressed masses; the way Israel and the U.S. are treating the people of Lebanon and Palestine on their own territories is enough documentary evidence not to believe resolutions passed by Arab summits. It does not take much to realize that the most deserving of Arab communities have been betrayed by the very people who speak for their cause.

Then there is the obsession with Arab unity. It is the wish of all Muslims to see their leaders speak at least once with a single voice and send a clear message to their enemies. The Muslim ummah in general and the Arab masses in particular want to see justice prevail. And where can this begin better than Palestine and Lebanon? Violence, injustice and death has ruled the two regions while reactionary regimes are never short of sympathy and support.

Now it has been announced that Arab leaders have agreed to meet in Baghdad on May 28 to send a signal to Moscow and Washington on Jewish migration and at the same time display solidarity with Iraq in its propaganda war with the West. Though Syria officially declared that President Hafiz al-Asad will not attend, it seems the decision has been made to go ahead without his presence. Another victory for Arab unity!

How important is it for the superpowers, the Arab people and world Muslims that all 22 Arab leaders gather in the Iraqi capital? What pressure levers can they use to send a strong signal to the U.S. and Soviet Union over the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel?

The Zionist regime and its superpower allies have nothing to worry about. Saddam Husayn is as concerned about the threat posed by Jewish migration to the occupied territories as is President George Bush. The Kremlin has got nothing to do with it for the simple

reason that Soviets are free to live wherever they can. Fallout from perestroika and glasnost!

With the exception of Syria and Libya, other Arab states have excellent relations with Washington. To date they have actually never cared to bring enough pressure on U.S. administrations to rethink its Middle East policy and adopt a more balanced approach towards the Arab-Israeli conflict. It is beyond imagination that Arab leaders will pass a strong and binding resolution against America's Israel policy or consider other practical ways to curtail the Jewish exodus.

An Arab envoy said yesterday, "It's far from clear what the summit can do other than urge the United States to push Israel towards the negotiating table. As for Soviet Jews, Moscow is unlikely to halt the exodus, and Washington is not going to scrap its quota on the immigrants just because the Arabs are anxious." The diplomat was unable to say which of the rulers are worrying about the danger of thousands of Jews arriving every month in the lands belonging to the Palestinians.

If anybody is really in need of an extraordinary summit, it is Saddam Husayn himself. He is said to be engaged in a controversial nuclear development program and feels that now is the best opportunity to tell his so-called opponents that the Arab world is behind him. Though Saddam's Arab neighbors are deeply enraged with the big powers for arming the Ba'th Party chief with offensive arms, there is little they can do at this juncture. After all they too need some platform to condemn the Jewish exodus and at the same time tell their own people that the eight-year-old intimate relationship with Saddam's Iraq was not in vain.

Khamene'i Speaks on Muslim Confrontations

LD2305205390 Tehran IRNA in English 1424 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said today that the confrontation against Muslims in occupied Palestine, Kashmir and elsewhere in the world betrays the inherent fear of Western governments of Islam. He said the oppressive governments see in Islam a unique capacity for threatening their illegitimate interests which is why they are making it hard for Muslims in Palestine, Kashmir and elsewhere.

The leader went on to deplore the mass killing of Muslims in occupied Palestine and Kashmir, and criticized the United Nations and human rights organizations throughout the world for watching crimes against humanity in total silence.

He said there is no single place in the world today on which the United States has a foothold without bringing poverty and misery to its native people, and noted that the Islamic Republic owes its accomplishments mainly to the adoption of a policy independent of the United States.

The leader was addressing a group of relatives of martyrs from places as far apart as Khoy, Bandar-Ganaveh, Mazendaran and West Azerbaijan, a group of Majles deputies, Labour Minister Husseyn Kamali, student members of university Islamic associations, and several others, who called at his headquarters.

Indian Actions in Kashmir Denounced

LD2305131790 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT
23 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA—The Islamic Republic has denounced the assassination of Kashmiri Alim Maulvi Mohammad Farooq and the killing of several unarmed Muslim mourners during the religious leader's funeral ceremony, by Indian troops.

"Reports from Kashmir indicate fresh incidents of sorrow which are undoubtedly the outcome of the current violence and denial of the rights of Kashmiri Muslims," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said last night.

Morteza Sarmadi said that a religious personality has fallen victim to the "reign of terror" in Kashmir, bringing "deep sorrow" to the Iranian Muslim people. He once again called on the Indian Government to exercise self-restraint, and forego its policy of force.

"Prolonging of the current situation in Kashmir is against the Indian society, therefore, the issue should be resolved through wisdom and with due respect to the public opinion of the Kashmiri people," Sarmadi said.

The Kashmiri uprising against Indian rule took a turn for the worse last Monday [21 May], when identified gunmen broke into popular Friday prayer leader Maulvi Farooq's Residence and sprayed him with bullets.

Although the Indian Government denied its involvement in the murder, Indian troops fired indiscriminately at the hundreds of thousands of mourners which came out for Farooq's funeral, killing and wounding several Muslims.

Majles Speaker Condemns Indian Action in Kashmir

LD2305111490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 May 90

[Excerpts] In this morning's open session of the Majles, the Majles speaker, Mr. Karrubi, criticized the silence of international forums during the period when the Iraqi regime was invading parts of Iranian territory. Further he considered the Bayt ol-Moqaddas operations, leading to the liberation of Khorramshahr, as a turning point in the course of the war imposed by Iraq on the Islamic revolution. [passage omitted]

Mr. Karrubi then condemned the violent confrontation of the Indian Government against the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir province. Further he criticized that country's government for its mass-martyring of that province's Muslims. While expressing his sympathy with

that province's Muslims, he said: The resolution of the Kashmiri issue needs serious thinking, and that inhumane action will have no effect apart from causing the wrath of Muslims as well as aiding the sustaining of tension. [passage omitted]

Paper Comments on Need To End 'Controversy'

NC2305120190 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI
in Persian 8 May 90 p 2

[Unattributed commentary: "Some Words to the Revenge-Seekers"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] One person suggests that direct talks with the United States could resolve our problems and that we should not pass up this opportunity. Some others answer that this is a deviant way of thinking and will drag us into humiliation. The controversy rages while the two sides express their views using the words and phrases that they feel convey their respective views most effectively. This is one way of approaching the subject and it is well-known that while airing their views, the two sides are not usually very cordial.

The fault is not one-sided. If the opponent of direct talks with the United States used words and phrases which did not please the proponent of such talks, he also accused those who opposed his ideas of being "sick," "rabble-rousers," and of "stirring up the atmosphere" and so on. Using such names with regard to one's opponents or critics is beyond the limits of courtesy.

In the end, the leader of the revolution sits in judgment and rejects talks with the United States. He calls the one who suggested it "simple-minded" and "intimidated" and adds that during debate and refutation, one should not resort to ad hominem attacks that transgress the limits of politeness.

The segment of his speech which is the "last word" in fact falls into the category of indisputable facts. If we impartially ponder the other segments, they also fall into the same category of the "last word" as they exhort the two sides to observe proper decorum with one another and not to transgress the limits of politeness.

Those individuals who truly believe that the exhortations of the leader are the "last word" will accept both segments after hearing them and will accept the need to put them into practice. However those who have a very low mentality will argue that part of the remarks of the leader are open to interpretation and each one can say it pertains to others. They harp on one segment and attempt to unravel the knots and say whatever they want to the other side. One uses the term "culture", the other "thought" and yet another uses the cover of "freedom of expression and belief" and so on.

What we have to say to such people is:

1. The criticism of a writer, even if it is harshly worded, does not mean opposition to freedom of belief. He is

entitled to defend his opinion if he so desires and he is free to do so. If the criticism is harshly worded, it may be considered an aberration on the part of the critic, but is not meant to prevent anyone from expressing his beliefs.

Praise be to God, the doors of the Islamic Republic of Iran are so wide open that anyone wishing to express his opinions is free to do so!

2. Fortunately, the author of the article "Direct Talks" has indicated his willingness to abide by the "last word" of the leader of the revolution, following the leader's clear announcement of his position. It was therefore expected that others would not act as if they were superior and would not take revenge on those who have taken a stand against the suggestion for direct talks, and thus will avoid another controversy.

In accordance with the leader's exhortations, one can warn those who are attacking the author of the article "Direct Talks" but one should not defame the critics.

3. These people should be aware that the controversies embedded in the humiliating episode of Mehdi Hashemi and similar incidents cannot be brought up and unraveled during such issues. They should not adopt these so-called apprehensive postures and begin doling out favors while, with their foul remarks, they seek revenge from those soldiers of the revolution who consider the defense of the Islamic Revolution their main obligation.

If this revenge-seeking persists, then the revelation of the episodes similar to and even worse than Mehdi Hashemi will begin.

4. Perhaps for a while the newspapers needed such fodder and so they were playing up such headlines. With the passage of time, they would then have pity on the United States and would later not even consider the United States fit for even the most minor columns! However, it would be better if they paid attention to the point that the leader of the revolution, with his calm and firm reasoning, has elaborated and elucidated on the United States and on the issue of talks with it. It would be advisable for these newspapers to focus on this reasoning.

5. In the past few days, scores of articles against talks with the United States have reached the newspaper offices from various sectors of society, but we have refrained from publishing them to avoid fueling the controversy. In any case, if those who are pining for talks with the United States were to continue their revenge-seeking from the opponents of talks, they will definitely not encounter any further silence from us. [passage omitted]

Paper Urges Action Against Israeli 'Genocide'

LD2205114190 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA—The Persian daily 'JOM-HURI-YE ESLAMI' on Tuesday [22 May] severely condemned the latest Zionist slaughter of the Palestinians

and called on Muslim nations to stand against the Zionist genocide instead of waiting for their reactionary governments to react. On Sunday [20 May], a Zionist soldier killed at least seven Palestinian workers in the West bank which led to massive demonstration by the Palestinians in the occupied territories. To quell the angry demonstrators the Zionist regime immediately sent in security and military forces with at least 600 tanks, dozens of personnel carriers and tens of helicopters who savagely gunned down another 20 Palestinians and injured 1,200 others. Reportedly the helicopters dropped a yellow poisonous substance on the crowd.

The report, though severely censored by Israel, said the daily's editorial, is by itself indicative of the fact that a massive genocide of the Palestinians in the occupied lands is underway. It said, "sealing off the Gaza Strip and enforcing curfew, is a scheme aimed at massacring or evacuating the dwellers of the Gaza Strip and subsequently creating appropriate conditions for settlement of the Soviet Jews."

"Under such a condition," the paper added, "the authorities of the Islamic Republic are of the opinion that it is time that the Islamic community shouldered its responsibility and showed a consolidated, firm and an all-out reaction."

The daily, however, regretted that the initial reactions by certain Palestinian and Arab leaders were petty and not with much substance. "It shows that no serious and effective reaction from the (Muslim) governments should not be expected," it added. [sentence as received]

It said in conclusion: "The incident is the beginning of a massive genocide of the Palestinians in the occupied territories. If the Islamic world remains indifferent, Israel will be tempted to usurp more lands and make new efforts to settle the immigrant Jews in these territories."

UK Envoy Reportedly Holds Talks With President

TA2305175090 (Clandestine) Iran's Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 23 May 90

[Text] While the regime's newspapers and mass media are continuing to heap insults on the British Government, a report from Tehran indicates that a special envoy of this government, named (?Park), who arrived in Tehran on Tuesday [22 May], is engaged in secret and direct talks with Hashemi-Rafsanjani with the aim of normalizing relations between the Islamic Republic and Mrs. Thatcher's government.

Velayati Receives Australian Deputy Minister

LD2305081590 Tehran IRNA in English 1803 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA—Australian Deputy Foreign Minister Richard John Smith discussed international issues and expansion of Tehran-Canberra ties with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here today. The Australian official also held talks on the two countries

joint economic commission, expansion of trade relations, and export of non-oil goods to Australia, with Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and Oceania 'Ala'eddin Borujerdi here on the same day.

Cooperation of Australian in the first five-year economic plan in Iran and expansion of cultural and sports ties were among other topics discussed in the meeting.

Smith arrived here today at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart.

Mohtashemi Denies 'Distorted' UPI Report

*LD2405094890 Tehran IRNA in English 0835 GMT
24 May 90*

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA—Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi here Thursday [24 May] said that most of the UPI dispatch of May 24 were distorted and that he had not talked to the UPI correspondent. Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi, Majles deputy from Tehran and the former interior minister was referring to the UPI dispatch from Tehran on his address to members of the Islamic Association of the students at Tehran University campus.

The UPI dispatch from Tehran while being distorted had a direct quotation from Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi, indicating that he had answered the UPI reporters' question on activities of political parties in Iran. "I have not talked to the UPI reporter," he told IRNA.

Khamene'i Speaks on Honoring Khomeyni

*LD2205134290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 22 May 90*

[Excerpts] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, spoke this morning at a meeting with the staff of the headquarters for staging ceremonies to mark the anniversary of the demise of his eminence, the Imam Khomeyni, God's peace be upon him. He said that the demise of the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran is still difficult to come to terms with, despite the fact that he passed away a year ago, and emphasized that the ceremonies honoring the anniversary of the demise of his eminence, the imam—may God's peace be upon him—should illustrate his personality and greatness.

While thanking all those involved in staging the demise ceremonies of his holiness, the Imam Khomeyni—God's peace be upon him—all the more splendidly, the leader of the Islamic revolution remarked: Honoring the imam means that we are honoring him from the standpoints of our belief, ideology, and revolutionary and national spirit and devotion, and the tributes should express and display all the dimensions of the imam's personality and genuine greatness.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said when referring to the point that there is nothing that can properly console us for the loss of his holiness the imam: The glory and greatness that Islam acquired during the times when

the imam was alive became more prominent with the events surrounding his demise. His eminence the imam and dimensions to his personality which are not possible to analyze. His warm breath would move a whole world and truly, the Almighty, in bringing about a turning point along the great movement of the convoy of mankind, created an invisible hand which was the blessed person of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i added: It is wrong to say that one can only detect what the imam really had at heart, by looking at his political vision. What the imam truly believed can be grasped by looking at all aspects and dimensions of his being and thoughts which were expressed in hundreds of languages, such as his political cries; mystical poetry; his smile; or when he would shed a tear. And we should make every effort to bear in mind the imam's accomplishments and perfections in everything we struggle for.

According to the same report, before his eminence the leader's remarks, Mr. Ansari, the official in charge of the headquarters for staging ceremonies marking the anniversary of the demise of His Holiness the Imam Khomeyni—God's peace be upon him—submitted a detailed report on the activities undertaken by the headquarters to take care and make the necessary arrangements for pilgrims from various cities of the country and also for Muslim and political figures from other parts of the world, who will be participating in the anniversary ceremonies.

President Addresses 'Ahl Al-Bayt Conference

*LD2105132190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 21 May 90*

[Excerpts] The first international conference of the 'Ahl al-Bayt [household of the prophet], may God's peace be upon him and his scion, opened in the Hoseyniyeh-ye Ershad this morning on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Ja'far Sadiq, may God's peace be upon him, and on the approaching first anniversary of the death of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani made a speech in the presence of over 350 Islamic scholars, 'ulema, and thinkers from Iran and other countries. [passage omitted]

According to our reporter, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani described the conference of the 'Ahl al-Bayt, may God's peace be upon them, as a necessary movement and, stressing that the meeting complements the Islamic unity conference, he said: Our main aim is the unity of the Islamic community and the discussions, arguments, and discourses of the conference's participants must be such as to further strengthen that unity. Islamic unity is an absolute imperative for us at this historical juncture and we have no other means for carrying out the commands of Islam than to move toward increased Muslim unity and solidarity.

Raising the point that the application of generalities to practical and specific cases requires precision and delicacy, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: That is where differences arise, and the issue in the world of Islam today is the plea of Islamic sources on what documents and what foundation we should base ourselves. And if that issue is resolved, everyone can hold to their own opinion and we can still have agreement in practice.

The president stressed: This conference can strengthen the foundation of international Islamic unity. The followers of the prophets Sunnat [tradition] are placed in a high position and they can be the basic axis for all Islamic sects. Referring to the epic-making and courageous acts of Muslims and the followers of the 'Ahl al-Bayt of the immaculate and the pure in various corners of the world, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Islamic Iran is a base for all the Muslims of the world, and Imam Khomeyni—the eminent and great leader of Iran's Islamic revolution—belonged to the entire world of Islam and his dear presence, with his command of divine knowledge, and his divine thinking knew no geographic boundaries.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani described the revitalizing school of the 'Ahl al-Bayt, may God's peace be upon them, as the best source of nourishment for the benefit of the Islamic community. He added: The victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran and the downfall of a hellish regime which relied on the world's strongest satanic power, and the establishment of the just government of the Islamic Republic of Iran which has stood proud in the face of all adversities, conspiracies, and acts of injustice proves our assertion that the 'Ahl al-Bayt, may God's peace be upon them, is the best source of nourishment for the Islamic community. It can be said with boldness that nothing has had as great an effect on the great victories of the Islamic revolution as the teachings of the 'Ahl al-Bayt, may God's peace be upon them, and their manner and tradition of life.

The president said that the failure and inability of international political analysts to present a correct analysis of the Islamic revolution arose from their unfamiliarity with and lack of knowledge about the 'Ahl al-Bayt of the immaculate and the pure and, stressing the role and importance of the velayat-e faqih in guiding and leading the Muslim nation of Iran toward salvation and deliverance, he said: The velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult] is an issue which had and has its source in the 'Ahl al-Bayt and the fact that the person in charge of a Muslim country and nation should be a mojtahed [one who has achieved a certain level of religious scholarship], a faqih [an expert in religious matters], a director, and a wise and brave man is the most important thing completing our blessings.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed the need for contact and consultation between the followers of the 'Ahl al-Bayt, may God's peace be upon them, and said: Coordination and unity of action

among the followers of the 'Ahl al-Bayt will help Islamic unity and advance the task of curing the ills of the world of Islam. And if we achieve that, we will be able to create a world movement to the benefit of Muslims.

The president also referred to the tragic killing of eight innocent Palestinian Muslim workers which took place yesterday at the hand of Zionists and spoke of it as a tragedy which could impel the Islamic world to action. At the end of his speech, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed gratitude to the honorable leader, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, for his wise counsel which resulted in the international conference of the 'Ahl al-Bayt and, thanking those involved in convening the conference, he invited the participants to strive diligently toward attainment of the aims of the conference.

Security Council Stresses Anticorruption Work

LD2005122490 Tehran IRNA in English 1110 GMT
20 May 90

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA—The National Security Council (NSC) convened here Saturday night [19 May] to assess political and security matters of the country. The meeting was presided over by the interior minister and attended by disciplinary and military chiefs and information, security and judiciary authorities. Decisions were made on political and security affairs of the country.

Also a report on the on-going 'Zafar' operation campaigning against drug smuggling and other social vices was submitted to the session by the commander of the Islamic revolutionary committees.

Committee personnel were praised for their sincere efforts in eradicating corruption. The council also called on the mass media to cooperate with the Interior Ministry to materialize the aims of the operation—promoting Islamic culture and values and removing all traces of the corrupt Western culture.

*Ghaffari Speaks to Majles on Corruption

90AS0062A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
2 May 90 pp 11, 12

[Text] In the name of the Most High. Following the publication of RESALAT's latest series of articles concerning Mr. Hadi Ghaffari's economic corruption, at yesterday's public Majles session he made statements that are printed for our alert readers on this page, followed by our answer to his remarks.

Mr. Ghaffari!

In the year 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] and again last month in several editorials the newspaper RESALAT, in a study of economic corruption, asserted with evidence, proof, statistics, and figures that the roots of some economic corruption and problems lie in abuses by some persons of political influence of their positions to amass wealth and economic power. Instances

involving the al-Hadi Foundation were cited as evidence. You must realize that in the view of our alert and revolutionary people, in a situation where proof and documentation are necessary, sworn statements are not effective. It would be better, instead of speaking in your accustomed manner, if at least once you would respond specifically to the instances that have been raised. It is better (if you can) if you give a clear discussion of the following questions and issues:

(A) You have sworn in the strongest terms that neither you nor the al-Hadi Institute have any accounts anywhere outside the country, and you then added "and God is our witness." We did not say the institute has a foreign account (although it may have), we wrote that you have a Swiss foreign exchange bank account and we asked to look into it. Our evidence is a telex from the ambassador of the Islamic Republic in Bonn and your own confirmation to our editorial writer and many Majles deputies. The text of the telex is as follows:

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bern

Number: 111-2/384

Date: 27 April 1987

In the name of the Most High

Islamic Consultative Majles—Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari

Pursuant to Your Excellency's order to send \$150,000 to account number 10704 for Mr. Seyyed Reza Esma'il-Damad at Branch 2 of the National Bank of Dubayy (United Arab Emirates), the aforementioned sum, equivalent to 238,000 Swiss francs, as detailed in the papers, is being sent, leaving \$688,578.83 in your account at that bank.

[Signed] Interim Embassy Supervisor

Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn Mala'ek

It must be said for the information of our noble readers that in the year 1361 [21 March 1982-20 March 1983] Mr. Ghaffari asked the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court for a letter that would provide him with a sum of money to purchase military equipment for the revolutionary guard. In his response, the chief of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court ordered: By verbal order of the prime minister, the sum of \$500,000 or the equivalent in rials is issued to Hojjat ol-Eslam Ghaffari. You have already given some funds, and the above sum is granted in the amount necessary to complete the figure in dollars.

The sum given previously was 19,950 French francs, which was in the file of the Kashani brothers, owners of the large Iranian store, which was treated as a part of the \$500,000. What is the answer to the following questions:

(1) What gives a Majles deputy, contrary to the Constitution, the right to get involved in the purchase of

military equipment, when this is the responsibility of the judiciary? At that time the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of the Revolutionary Guard were legally responsible for this, and were sometimes obliged to wait to open foreign exchange credit accounts for small amounts.

(2) The total amount received, as the chief of the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court wrote, was not to exceed \$500,000, yet according to the aforementioned telex there was \$583,978 in your account. Where did the rest of the foreign exchange come from? A verbal report states that the account was initially opened with one million dollars. Is this true?

(3) Why were monies from the public treasury held in Swiss bank accounts from 1361 to 1366 [21 March 1987-20 March 1988] and then partially used after five years to buy equipment such as lanterns for the revolutionary guard? What happened to the rest of the foreign exchange? Why was this done in violation of Article 53 of the Constitution, that says no expenditure is authorized without Majles approval? Didn't you take an oath that you would act according to the Constitution with this martyr's blood money?

(4) Was interest paid on the above foreign exchange deposit or not? If the answer is affirmative, how much was it?

(B) The al-Hadi Foundation was registered on 19 July 1987. In Article 5 of the registered charter no figure is given for the amount of assets, but documents submitted by you after the pre-agenda speech show that the fixed assets of the al-Hadi Foundation in the month of Tir 1366 [22 June-22 July 1987] (the time of registration) were \$12.9 million, and no documents were given for current assets, but prior to this date al-Hadi won bidding at the Ministry of Agriculture for a cattle ranch for 1,000 million rials (meaning nine times the assets declared at the time of registration). Consider the following document:

Brother Mir Hoseyn Musavi, Respected Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

With respect, with regard to the enactment of the Council of Ministers at the meeting of 15 July 1987 authorizing the sale of the Garmsar cattle ranch to the Ministry of the Revolutionary Guard.

The matter of transferring the Garmsar cattle ranch to applicants in the private or the public sector has been under consideration for some time and has led to the holding of formal auctions and the following auction results:

- (1) Al-Hadi Foundation, 1,000 million rials
- (2) Mr. Mahmud Derakhshani, 900 million rials
- (3) Islamic Economy Organization, 250 million rials

(4) Ministry of Agriculture Employees' Cooperative Company, 780 million rials.

In view of the fact that the auctions have been held and the al-Hadi Foundation was the legal winner with a bid of 1,000 rials, and announcements have been made for the purpose of transferring ownership to this company, it is requested that in view of the contradiction between the above enactment and the auction results, you should issue the necessary guidance on the proper course of action.

[Signed] 'Abbas'ali Zali

Minister of Agriculture

It is obvious that the date of the letter was before 15 July 1987. Please answer the following questions as well:

(5) What was the foundation's total capital (both fixed and current) at the time of registration?

(6) Where did a foundation that declared no capital in its charter get the vast wealth to be able to spend 100 million tomans to buy a cattle ranch?

(C) You have said "al-Hadi is a non-profit institution with a legally registered identity and a security board of 10 persons, one of whom is myself," and you sought thereby to minimize your own role. Yet there are five members on the board and all of them are appointed by you, and you yourself, as custodian of the al-Hadi Mosque, are chairman for life! Article 9 of the charter reads:

Article 9, Security Board

The al-Hadi Foundation will have a security board. The board will have five members to be appointed for two-year terms by the custodian of the al-Hadi Mosque from among religious, pious, and reputable people. They may be reappointed. The custodian of the al-Hadi Mosque is the perpetual chairman of the board of security.

You yourself have the right to dissolve the foundation, and you have said:

"Article 19—Dissolution of the foundation—The foundation will be dissolved in the following cases:

- The failure to implement the foundation's objective, or the impossibility of doing so.
- If the board of security at any time votes to dissolve the foundation for good reasons.

Note—In this case, in addition to a vote from the board of security, the vote of the custodian of the al-Hadi Mosque is required."

The interesting thing is that according to Article 21 of the charter, after the foundation's dissolution all the

assets must become a part of the al-Hadi Mosque's endowment under the supervision of Mr. Ghaffari. Of course after the exposes that have been made against the foundations, since the foundation was renamed as an institution, Article 21 was changed so that after dissolution its assets would be placed at the disposal of the Religious Endowments Organization with the government ministries (this change was registered on 20 February 1990). Yesterday you claimed "this institution is entirely endowments."

(7) The question is, if the claim that it is endowments is correct, this must have happened in the last two months. What is the text of the record of endowment expenditures and actions taken in this area?

(D) According to the financial statement submitted by you, the al-Hadi Foundation has been active at least since 1360 [21 March 1981-20 March 1982] and has paid wages. The foundation's total fixed assets were declared at 12.9 million rials as of 19 July 1987 (the time of registration). Add the following questions to the foregoing questions:

(8) Under Article 3 of the charter you announced that funding would be obtained through economic and investment activities. Why have you not published a list of the foundation's transactions and economic activities? It is not too late, announce them now.

(9) What was the amount of the foundation's current capital at the time of its registration? What economic activities has the foundation carried out since the date of registration? Why have no figures been given on the foundation's income and costs in the so-called financial documents submitted?

(10) According to correspondence between the Foundation for the Oppressed and the prime minister, the first portion of shares in the Starlight Stocking Company was transferred to the al-Hadi Foundation on 5 January 1986, and another portion (20 percent) on 23 February 1987. Why didn't you declare assets at the time the foundation was registered? And why, at least in your report to the Majles on the financial condition of the al-Hadi Foundation's fixed assets, did you declare only 12.9 million rials? You spoke eloquently and in detail, and you asked everyone to study the report. Was it that accurate?

(E) You have said "I have brought all the documents of the Islamic al-Hadi Institute and the newspapers may publish them. A letter in the handwriting of his holiness the imam transferred part of the assets of this nation (a small part) from the Foundation for the Oppressed pertaining to the Starlight Stocking Factory (Asia) to the al-Hadi Institute, the text of which is available."

We present below the two letters you cited, to see how accurately you stated this:

شماره ۴,۶۲,۲۸۱۲

تاریخ ۱۱, ۵, ۶۴

پیوست



جمهوری اسلامی ایران

سخت‌گیر

بنده تقالی

محضر مبارک حضرت امام امت مدظله العالی رهبر و بنیانگذار جمهوری اسلامی ایران
بعد از سلام و درود

محترماً "مروضه" دارد . توسط بنیاد مستضعفان لایستی از اموال و دارائیهای
پراکنده و نسبتاً "کوچک" بنیاد تهیه گردیده است که نگهداری این قبیل دارائیهها
برای بنیاد دشوار است و بنظر مقام محترم ریاست جمهوری و ریاست محترم مجلس
و اسباب به صلاح نزدیکتر است . برای یک کردن بار بنیاد مستضعفان . این قبیل
اموال به موسسات عام المنفعه و خیریه و تبلیغاتی که برای اسلام کار میکنند مفضل
نمودن در راه اهداف اسلامی و کمک به مستضعفان بکار گرفته شود .
در این زمینه اسامی کسبه امداد امام . سازمان بهزیستی . بنیاد ۱۵ خرداد .
انجمنهای اسلامی و اسال آن مطرح است . نظر مبارک در مورد این پیشنهاد
چیست ؟

مفيد است باطلاع آن مقام معظم رسانده شود که کارخانه های بزرگ و دارائیهای
اساسی بنیاد و نیز شرکتهاى معادله شده ساختن و زمینهای شهری در این لایست
نیامده است .

تایید
نمونه مورد نظر آقایان فرستاد
روز سه شنبه ۱۱, ۵, ۶۴
میرحسین موسوی
۱۵/۵/۶۴
میرحسین

[Translation of first letter]

Number: 4.63.2812

Date: 2 August 1984

Islamic Republic of Iran

Office of the Prime Minister

In the name of the Most High

To his blessed holiness the imam of the nation, may God prolong his life, the leader and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with greetings and praise:

It is respectfully submitted, the Foundation for the Oppressed has compiled a list of the scattered and relatively small assets of the Martyrs' Foundation. It is difficult for the foundation to look after assets of this kind, and in the views of the respected president of the republic, the respected speaker of the Majles, and myself, it would be more appropriate, to lighten the burden of the Foundation for the Oppressed, for assets of this kind to be put to work in public, charitable, and propaganda institutions that work for Islam so that they can be used for Islam and aid to the oppressed.

In this regard, the names of the Imam's Relief Committee, the Welfare Organization, the 5 June Foundation, the Union of Islamic Societies, and the like are suggested. What is your blessed opinion of this proposal?

It is useful to inform His Excellency that the large factories, the foundation's basic assets, and the confiscated urban companies and foundations are not included in this list.

1 August 1984

[Signed] Mir Hoseyn Musavi

[Notation added] In the name of the Most High, what has been brought to my attention I approve. 4 August 1984 Ruhollah Khomeyni

[Translation of second letter]

Number: 4.63.6376

Date: 27 January 1987

Enclosure:

Islamic Republic of Iran

Office of the Prime Minister

In the name of the Most High

Esteemed brother, Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni,

With praise and greetings

I am writing at the request of brother Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Ghaffari.

The 30 percent of the company's shares transferred to the al-Hadi Foundation mentioned in the letter from this foundation is based on authorization given for several organizations such as the Relief Committee, the Propaganda Organization, the 15 Khordad Organization, and to include the al-Hadi Foundation, obtained from His Holiness the Imam, may the Almighty prolong his life (copy enclosed).

I support the latest request from the al-Hadi Foundation to transfer another 30 percent of the company's shares held by the Foundation of the Oppressed, because of the activities of the al-Hadi Foundation. Consequently I request the blessed view of His Holiness the Imam on this matter. If His Greatness deems it advisable, let him announce it so action can be taken.

[Signed] Mir Hoseyn Musavi

[Dated] 26 January 1987

[Notation added] In the name of the Most High Your Excellency the respected prime minister his holiness the imam says "if you deem it advisable, there is no problem with regard to religious law, I agree."

Ahmad Khomeyni

As is seen in the first letter, which is cited in the transfer of 30 percent of the shares of the Starlight Company to the al-Hadi Foundation, there is no mention of the al-Hadi Foundation. Rather, institutes are mentioned that are either parts of ministries such as the Better Life Organization or public organizations under the supervision of representatives of the vali-ye faqih [supreme jurisconsult] such as the Relief Committee and the Union of Islamic Societies. There is not a single name of a private non-profit institution. Rather it is the prime minister's discretion that considers the al-Hadi Foundation "the like" of the Relief Committee and the Better Life Organization and transfers the 30 percent. In the second letter, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni writes:

"His holiness the imam has stated that if you deem it advisable and if there are no obstacles in religious law, 'I agree,' meaning that here also the ultimate responsibility for transferring the shares is on the shoulders of the prime minister."

(Question 11) Do you still claim just as emphatically that the Imam ordered the transfer of Starlight to al-Hadi in his own blessed handwriting?

(Question 12) It says in the prime minister's letter, "the Foundation for the Oppressed has compiled a list of the scattered and relatively small assets of the Martyrs' Foundation. It is difficult for the foundation to look after assets of this kind." In your view, is Starlight Stockings, one of the nation's largest stocking factories, half of whose shares, according to an official letter from the workers' representative on its board of directors, are worth five billion rials, a scattered and relatively small asset?



جمهوری اسلامی ایران
نخست وزیر

شماره ۶۲۷۶، ۶۲۸۶
تاریخ ۷، ۱۱، ۶۵
پیوست ۸

بسمه تعالی

برادرگرامی حجت الاسلام حاج سیداحمد خمینی

با احترام و تبریک

به پیوست درخواست برادر حجت الاسلام هادی نظاری ارسال میگردد.

۲۵٪ واگذار شده از سهام شرکت به بنیاد الهادی که در نامه بنیاد مذکور آمده است مربوط به اجازتای است که برای چند سازمان نظیر کمیته امداد، سازمان تبلیغات، بنیاد پانزده خرداد و از جمله بنیاد الهادی از حضرت امام مدظله العالی کسب گردیده (تصویب پیوست).

در مورد تقاضای اخیر بنیاد الهادی مبنی بر واگذاری ۲۵٪ دیگر از سهام شرکت کسب در اختیار بنیاد مستضعفان است، اینجانب به لحاظ فعالیت های بنیاد الهادی موافق هستم و لذا مراتب جهت کسب نظر مبارک حضرت امام امت تقدیم میگردد. چنانچه نظم له صلاحیت بدانند اعلام فرمایند تا اقدام شود.

میرحسین موسوی

۵/۱۱/۶۵
نخست وزیر

وزیر امور خارجه
وزیر اطلاعات
وزیر فرهنگ و ارشاد اسلامی
وزیر تعاون، کار و رفاه اجتماعی
وزیر راه و ترابری
وزیر نیرو
وزیر صنایع و معادن
وزیر دفاع و پشتیبانی نیروهای مسلح
وزیر امور اقتصادی و دارایی
وزیر بهداشت، درمان و آموزش پزشکی
وزیر مسکن و شهرسازی
وزیر ورزش و جوانان
وزیر امور محلی و دهیاری ها
وزیر امور قضایی
وزیر امور فقهی و حقوقی
وزیر امور علمی و پژوهشی
وزیر امور اجتماعی
وزیر امور فرهنگی
وزیر امور سیاسی
وزیر امور بین الملل
وزیر امور خارجه

(13) What problems did looking after the Starlight Factory have for the Foundation of the Oppressed, that it had to be turned over to your foundation? You who talk so much about the velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult], what religious justification do you have for using that letter in this way?

(Question 14) In view of the fact that now 100 percent of the factory's shares belong to the al-Hadi Foundation, why didn't you mention the other 50 percent in your talk? The National Industries Organization is not willing to carry out its legal responsibility by transferring the shares of some companies to the Bank of Industry and Mines because of its debt to the bank. How were 50 percent of the shares of Starlight, which were part of Paragraph B of the Protection Law and were completely confiscated in the interest of the government, transferred to you in 1367 at a scandalous price?

(Question 15) On what basis was the 50 percent price set for the purchase of national industries at the sum of 110 million tomans? The factory's registered profit for 1367

was 178 million tomans. Is the price of a factory that produces 178 million tomans profit per year 220 million tomans in that same year?

(F) You have claimed "Under no circumstances will this factory produce even one pair of sheer stockings." This photograph shows that various types of women's net and sheer stockings are produced at the Starlight company. If you say they are for export, our first question is, why do you say "under no circumstances will this factory produce even one pair of sheer stockings." Second, what do you say about the invoice below? Doesn't it show that on 24 August 1987 that three-quarter women's sheer stockings with flowered netting and women's stretch net stockings were distributed at your Store Number Nine in Tehran (referring to product codes 358060 and 357020)?

[Translation of Invoice]

Joorab Asia Mfg

Ex. Starlight

Stocking Distribution Corporation

Date: 24 August 1987

Invoice Number 15352

Invoice from Store Number Nine. The total for the items below will be added to your account

Row	Code	Name	Quantity	Price per Unit	Total
1	108120	Plain Men's Stockings	25 pair	1920	48,000
8	358060	Men's Stretch Stockings	25	2400	60,000
91	357040	Sheer Women's Stockings	15	2400	36,000
15	6245	[not legible]	10	2040	20,400

[Bottom of invoice not legible]

(Question 17) Was the profit on each pair of women's stockings, which you put at 45 percent, set with the knowledge and approval of the respected Ministry of Commerce?

(Question 18) How much of the factory's production is distributed by the Asia Stocking Distribution Company, which is still owned by the Foundation of the Oppressed (from the well-known Starlight stores) and how much through other methods?

(G) You also made other exaggerations in your talk, including insults and slander directed at the respected brother Dr. Larijani. You said that he accused 140 Majles deputies of rebelling. What Mr. Larijani said was this:

"If the supreme jurisconsult deems it in the interest of Islam and the government for us to go on the pilgrimage to Mecca, and if he believes it is harmful to us not to go on the hajj, one must not publish a letter now in the midst of the negotiations and destroy the negotiations.

That is, if someone does something to obstruct the pilgrimage, knowing that the supreme jurisconsult's belief is that the pilgrimage must take place, this is rebellion, and based on religious law this is rebellion." (RESALAT 22 April 1990, p 2)

(Question 19) First of all, isn't this the correct view under religious law? What about the view of his holiness the imam (may his grave be sanctified)? If someone knowingly acts against the views of the supreme jurisconsult and obstructs the work of the government, is this not rebellion? Secondly, why did you take this general matter upon yourself? If you knowingly signed that letter, do you consider yourself the proof of what Mr. Larijani said? Do all the signers, like you, consider themselves the proof of what Mr. Larijani said?

(G) You also leveled the ugliest accusations against the officials and founders of RESALAT, to the extent of heresy and infidelity. You portrayed them as without religion, against rule of the supreme jurisconsult and against the imam. Among the founders of RESALAT are four clergymen with a long record of militancy in Qom,

JOORAB ASIA MFG

EX. Starlight



شرکت سهامی پخش جوراب

تاریخ ۱۳۶۹/۶/۱۰

شماره ۱۵۲۵۲

فاکتور

مورد حساب و درگاه صادره از ۹ جمع کل اقلام ذیل به مبلغی حساب کما برده شد.

ردیف	کد	شرح	تعداد	قیمت واحد	جمع
۱	۸۸۸۸۰	جوراب مردانه پاره	۲۵	۱۹۸	۴۹۵۰
۲	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۵	۲۴	۶۰۰
۳	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۱۵	۲۴	۳۶۰
۴	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۵	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۶	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۷	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۸	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۹	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰
۱۰	۵۵۵۰۰	جوراب زنانه پاره	۲۰	۲۴	۴۸۰

مهر و امضاء صادر کننده

مهر و امضاء تایید کننده

تاریخ ۱۳۶۹/۶/۱۰

Najaf, and throughout Iran to achieve Islamic government and establish the rule of Emam Khomeyni. Ayatollah Azari-Qomi was assigned various responsibilities by the his holiness the imam himself (may God have mercy on him) throughout the revolution. For example, in the final months of his blessed life he appointed him to the Constitutional Review Council, and with the approval of all the members of the council he made the greatest efforts to enact the absolute rule of the supreme jurisconsult. Hojjat ol-Islam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni often conveyed the imam's approval and praise concerning Ayatollah Azari and several hundred of his articles in RESALAT defended the leadership and rule of the supreme jurisconsult, to the point that His Greatness himself said in praise of Mr. Azari and his articles:

"You are one of the learned, militant, and impassioned figures of the revolution. By writing good articles and essays, you strive to guide the people on the right path."

Ayatollah Rasti Kashani has also had various responsibilities assigned to him by his holiness the imam since the beginning of the revolution. For example, until the end of the imam's life he was a member of the directing council of the seminary, and he still is. Ask people like Mr. Musavi-Kho'iniha about his record of defense while the imam was away in Najaf.

Ayatollah Khaz'ali was appointed to two terms by that great man on the Council of Guardians and at the same time he was a member of the Constitutional Review Council.

Hojjat ol-Islam val-Moslemin Shar'i was appointed to the Supreme Council of the Islamic Propaganda Organization, and is still a member. RESALAT's officials include individuals with long records of militancy, including Mr. 'Asghar-Owladi, who had the honor until the end of being the Imam's representative on the Imam's Relief Committee, and Mr. Ahmad Tavakoli, the author of the editorials you are protesting. At the peak of the publicity campaign waged by people such as yourself against these two ministers, in the years from 1360 to 1362 [21 March 1983-20 March 1984], the imam defended them:

"As for these few ministers that resigned, well I know some of them well, such as Mr. 'Asghar-Owladi, who, like the late 'Araqi, was involved in the movement from the beginning and exerted great effort. I consider him to be a most competent and devoted man. I have known some of the gentlemen throughout the life of this republic, such as the minister of labor, who has been a good and competent man, also throughout this period I have known him."

(Question 20) Is it possible to imagine that individuals who under your leadership are against the Imam, do not believe in the rule of the supreme jurisconsult and are without religion could still be appointed by the Imam of the nation as representatives in a sensitive center, or that he would say such a thing in his talks?

Finally, we note that it would be better if you act in accordance with the law. You can answer our questions in accordance with the Press Law and we will publish it, or you can file against us with the public prosecutor, because under the Judicial Procedures Law one may not accuse someone of a crime from the podium of the Majles. You have asked, why don't we declare economic violations of the law. It is the duty of the judiciary to call upon the public prosecutor to act, not ours. Of course we have previously complained about your slander and accusations directed at us, and we will complain again this time. Even though it has been more than a year since our last complaint and it has not yet been addressed, we urge the judiciary to bring you to the bench so that you and those like you will not be able to use the sacred forum of the Majles as a means to sully the names of others.

We call upon the respected speaker of the Majles and the Speaker's Council to act just this once on the command of his holiness the imam (may his grave be sanctified), where he said:

"It is necessary to mention the matter of the pre-agenda speeches. Often a speaker assumes he must say whatever he wishes without restrictions, conditions, commitments, or responsibilities, and that he may launch a so-called attack against whomever he wishes, whether in attendance at the session or not. The criteria of God, religious law, and ethics are ignored, he has no responsibility, not even from the point of view of religious law. Some speeches are most regrettable and sad. Often harsh affronts are directed at a Muslim and a believer and the reputations of human beings are sullied. It is also worth mentioning that if someone is attacked in the Majles who is not present and has no way to get to the Majles to defend himself, he must be permitted either to defend himself in the Majles, or if there is a legal problem with this, radio, television, and the press must shoulder this heavy responsibility so the rights of the oppressed will not be lost and a person's name will not be destroyed for no reason. The solution to this problem is in the hands of the deputies themselves and the respected speaker of the Majles, for with their commitment and the responsibility on their shoulders, they should give the right to people who are absent so that through the Majles, which is the guardian of the interests of the country and the nation, rights will not be lost and a human being will not be oppressed."

We have repeatedly requested in writing to give an answer to the inadmissible accusations of the likes of Mr. Ghaffari before the Majles, but unfortunately there has been no answer. We hope that you will not permit the Majles to be used any more to damage the reputations of those who serve the revolution.

Yesterday's Comments in the Majles by Hadi Ghaffari

Mr. Hadi Ghaffari, Tehran deputy, was the final pre-agenda speaker yesterday in the Majles. He read the verse "God does not want evil to be proclaimed publicly,

except where injustice has been done," and he mentioned the first anniversary of the death of our departed imam (may his grave be sanctified). He said:

Just when it is almost a year since the loss of our exalted imam, here and there the principles and basic values of the Islamic revolution are being attacked and plundered. Sometimes in the form of a pre-sermon talk at the Friday prayer service, sometimes as a press conference, sometimes in the form of an editorial, and sometimes even in the form of a commentary, the values of the Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon him) are being unwisely, irresponsibly, and naively attacked.

In another part of his talk, he said: As a Majles deputy and as the eyes, ears, and mouth of the entire Muslim nation, I will take this opportunity to keep alive for all the people and the respected officials the memory of the martyrdom of the great master of Islamic thought, the wise man and divine philosopher His Holiness Ayatollah Morteza Motahari.

With regard to an individual named Dr. Javad Larijani, a politically suspicious character whose public statements and positions are in conflict with the Islamic and revolutionary views of his holiness the imam (God's greetings to him), in a press conference he accused 140 representatives of the people of rebellion after they signed and issued a letter concerning the reenactment of Abraham's pilgrimage, condemning the Americanized rulers in the Saudi family, defending the oppressed martyrs of the bloody pilgrimage to Mecca, and giving a reasoned analysis concerning America. I accuse him of criminal wrongdoing. No scholar or clergyman with independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence would at any time have the boldness and presumption to accuse more than 140 representatives of the people of rebellion, and he made these statements without even thinking. Certainly, if the rules are observed, he must pay the penalty under religious law and apologize for his remarks.

Mr. Hadi Ghaffari then attacked the writer of the article "Direct Negotiations" published in the newspaper ETTELA'AT. He said: These days the evil tune of direct talks with America is being played by some reputable writers, and of course during the period of apparent rule by the hypocrites they signed a letter benefitting the hypocrites in this very Majles. The great calamity of facilitating compromise with America is beginning to develop. Before any commentary on the imam's sacred vastness (God's greetings to him), I remind you of his statement: "The Muslims of the world, along with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, must resolve to crush America's teeth in its mouth, and witness the blossoming of the flower of freedom, unity, and the imamate in the world of the most noble Prophet (peace be upon him)." (The imam's message to those departing on the 1365 [summer 1986] pilgrimage to Mecca) The imam also said: "We will stop American blackmail and immunity for its officials with all our being, even if it is to be through violent struggle. God

willing, we will not permit the Ka'bah and the pilgrimage, this great pulpit on the roof of humanity, which must echo the voices of the oppressed to the entire world and sound the cry of unity, to become a place where the sound of compromise with America, the Soviet Union, and infidelity and polytheism, and we ask God to grant us the power to shout death to America and the Soviet Union, not only from the Ka'bah, but also from the churches of the world." (imam's message to pilgrims on the anniversary of the bloody pilgrimage catastrophe, 1367 [summer 1988])

Likewise, compare the contents of that notorious article of several days ago with this comment from the imam (may God be pleased with him): "We must all come out of the swamp and mire of silence in which the Americans and the Soviets have planted the seeds of captivity, and we must move towards the sea from which the Zamzam well flows, and we must wash with our tears the shroud of the Kaaba and the house of God, which has been stained by the filthy bedfellows of America and its progeny." (imam's message to pilgrims on the anniversary of the bloody pilgrimage catastrophe.) Definitely the position of the exalted leader of the revolution (may his grace continue) and the respected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran (may God protect him) following the unwavering principles of his holiness the imam (God's greetings to him) condemns the anti-Islamic and non-revolutionary positions published in that article a few days ago. The day we compromise with America is the day the imam, the revolution and the sacred aspirations of the martyrs die, and that day will definitely never come. Won't this mean opening that defiled door that the Imam never allowed to open during his lifetime? So some people think that the children of the Imam will permit them to commit any mistake they wish? I call upon newspaper owners, especially the newspapers connected with public assets and the Muslim treasury, not to publish non-Islamic views and views contrary to values that wound the hearts of millions of believing and devoted Muslims, especially the exalted families of martyrs who made the greatest investment at the forefront of the fight with America and defending the aspirations of the Imam, and instead to publish clarifications, analyses, high thinking, and the lofty aspirations of the imam that were printed in that holy man's divine political will.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker discussed the al-Hadi Institute. He said: I have brought all the documents of the Islamic al-Hadi Institute and the newspapers may publish them. There is a copy of the text in his holiness the imam's own handwriting transferring in his own blessed hand a portion of the assets of this nation (a small portion) from the Foundation for the Oppressed called the Starlight Stocking Factory (Asia) to the al-Hadi Institute. It is a non-profit institution with a legally registered identity and a security board of 10 persons, one of whom is myself, and most of them are from the exalted martyr's families. As answer to the nonsense and baseless accusations that were published in editorials

and gossip columns by the newspaper RESALAT, which is against the rule of the supreme jurisconsult, I say first of all that his holiness the imam himself approved the transfer of the Asia Stocking Production Company to the al-Hadi Institute, not in the way that the writer unfairly and unjustly wrote. The Foundation for the Oppressed did not give it, His Holiness the Imam himself conferred this grace. Secondly, this production company absolutely does not produce even one pair of sheer stockings. They can go and look (Kilometer Seven, Karaj Road). The products of this company are solely distributed by the respected Ministry of Commerce and with full supervision waging the struggle against evil. Third, the books, the figures, and the statement of expenditures and costs are available (an example is here). Right here at this podium I ask all the judicial, legal, economic, financial, and other authorities to investigate the books and assets of this Islamic institution so that after our claims are proven an answer will be given to the injustices, the deceptions, the propaganda, the rumors, and the lack of adherence to religion on the part of the operators of a newspaper that still does not believe in the rule of the supreme jurisconsult. If they believe they are not lying, why don't they declare that a crime has been committed? Or why don't they complain officially to the judiciary, which is no stranger to them, so the black face of all their fraud and lack of religion can be exposed? The unbelieving editorial writer has stated that this institute has a bank account outside the country. O God, you yourself know that this carries dastardly and irreligious behavior beyond the limit, and that this institute has clearly been slandered. "God and His prophet are witness" that this is a lie. Neither I nor the Islamic al-Hadi Institute have any account anywhere outside the country, "and God is the witness of what I say and what they say." Certainly the day will come before the throne of judgement when those who deal in slander and accusations will be dealt with. This institute is entirely endowments and I am its legally and religiously authorized custodian. I do not have and it does not have one rial invested anywhere in the world, and otherwise, may God curse me and the one making the accusation.

He added: I know very well that the atmosphere of rumors, accusations, and slander is all because of my clear and hostile position against world imperialism led by America and capitalism. From this sacred tribune, before the Glorious Koran, once again for the information of everyone, writer or not, mercenary or not, religious or pretending to be religious, I declare my position: I will never back down anywhere from the struggle with capitalism, Americanized capitalism, capitalists, leeches, America and its henchmen and supporters, no matter where they appear, in what newspaper or in what clothing. One must not publish articles with accusations and even hundreds of items of gossip in a newspaper whose record is well-known to the entire nation of Iran, including itself: "The human being will serve as evidence against himself, despite his excuses." [quoting the Koran] If I am to be hung on charges of fighting with capitalism, capitalists, and imperialism, I will go to the

gallows heroically and will not back away one millimeter from my anti-imperialist, anti-American, anti-Israel, and anticapitalist leech position. "Say, work and God and the prophet and the believers will see what you did, God has spoken the truth." [quoting the Koran] Long live the prophet, long live 'Ali, long live Abu Zar [a companion of Mohammad known for his humility and asceticism], long live the exalted leader, death to the hypocrites, death to those who oppose the rule of the supreme jurisconsult.

In conclusion the Tehran deputy thanked the Islamic government for its esteemed services. He said: I say to the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the burden of high prices is breaking the backs of the people and they are crying out. Do something before it is too late. Corruption and irresponsibility are rampant and have angered the partisans of God. While the opportunity remains and it is not too late, may 'Ali come to our aid.

Pakistan

Reportage on Completion of Bhutto's 8-Nation Tour

Comments on Talks in Tunisia

BK2405040590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 24 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto was given an affectionate welcome when she arrived in Islamabad last night after her nine-day visit to eight Muslim countries—Iran, Turkey, Syria, Jordan, North Yemen, Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia. During her visit, the prime minister held talks with the leaders of the Muslim countries on important problems facing the Islamic world, including the Kashmir, Afghanistan, and Palestine issues. She apprised the leaders of the latest situation in Kashmir, the large-scale atrocities committed there, the massacre of helpless and innocent Kashmiri people at the hands of Indian troops, and the alarming Indian troop concentration along the Line of Control and the international borders.

The prime minister was received at the airport by National Assembly Speaker Malik Mairaj Khalid, the Punjab governor, federal ministers, ministers of state, advisers, and members of parliament. A large number of people—including Pakistan People's Party workers—who gathered at the airport shouted slogans welcoming the prime minister and her successful visit abroad.

During the visit, she informed about the Kashmir issue and mustered support from the fraternal Islamic nations for Pakistan's stand on the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people.

During his brief talk with newsmen at Islamabad airport, an official spokesman who accompanied the prime minister's delegation expressed total satisfaction at the outcome of the prime minister's visit and her talks with the leaders of the Muslim countries. He said the leaders of all

the Muslim countries are of the opinion that every possible effort should be taken to avert a war over the Kashmir issue. However, they have given an assurance that if Pakistan is made the target of aggression, they will support Pakistan.

Speaking to newsmen in Tunis yesterday, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said during her talks with Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Prime Minister Hamed Karoui on Kashmir and other issues, there was total understanding and encouragement. She appreciated the promotion of solidarity among Arab and Islamic countries on the problems facing the Islamic community and the role of the Tunisian leaders for cooperation between the rich and poor nations.

Radio Pakistan's special representative, Bakshi K. Ahmad, reports that Ms. Benazir Bhutto has extended an invitation to the president and the prime minister of Tunisia to visit Pakistan in order to see for themselves the spirit of goodwill that the people of Pakistan have toward Tunisia and its people.

Later, speaking to newsmen at the prime minister's special plane, Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmad Khan described the prime minister's meetings with the Tunisian leaders as the best of her visits. He said views were exchanged mostly on Kashmir, Afghanistan, and the Middle East. The prime minister apprised the Tunisian president of the historic background of the Kashmir issue since 1947, the current people's movement in the occupied territory and the use of brutal force there, the recent assassinations of Mirwaiz Maulvi Mohammad Farooq [Muslim high priest in India's Jammu and Kashmir] and others, and the buildup of Indian troops in three major sectors along the Pakistani border. The foreign secretary said the reaction of the Tunisian leaders was very encouraging. President Ben Ali informed Prime Minister Bhutto that during his visit to Washington, he urged the U.S. Administration to make India desist from any sort of aggression on Pakistan. He said Tunis will raise the Kashmir issue in all international and Islamic forums and will support Pakistan's stand on this issue.

On Afghanistan, he said Tunis is concerned at the lack of solidarity among the Afghan mujahidin groups. Prime Minister Bhutto apprised him of Afghan mujahidin's plan to hold elections, and she made it clear that Pakistan does not support any one group and wants a solution that paves the way for the formation of a nonaligned and independent Afghan government.

The Tunisian leader also expressed concern at Israel's aggressive designs in the Middle East and the unconcerned attitude of the Arab countries for a solution in Palestine and other issues. Both the leaders agreed to continue formal discussions between the two countries on matters of mutual interest.

Pakistani 'Isolation' Reduced

BK2405095490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0947 GMT
24 May 90

[By Masood Shah]

[Text] Islamabad, May 24 (AFP)—Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has ended a tour of eight Middle East and North African countries after earning pledges of diplomatic support on Kashmir from some Muslim leaders. Analysts said the nine-day trip, completed late Wednesday [23 May] amid reports of continuing troop movements along the Indo-Pakistani border, had reduced Pakistan's sense of isolation in case of a possible war with India.

Ms. Bhutto's last host, Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, not only assured her that he would stand by Pakistan if war broke out, but also promised to take up the Kashmir question at the Arab summit in Baghdad. Pakistani Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmad Khan described Tunisia's pledge as a major achievement, stressing that non-Arab issues were rarely discussed at Arab summits.

High tensions prevailed meanwhile along the Indo-Pakistani border, with witnesses and Western sources Thursday reporting troop movements in various sectors.

Residents of Sialkot, in Pakistani Punjab facing the southern section of Indian Kashmir, said a large number of Pakistani troops arrived this week in response to a similar deployment of Indian forces. Western military attaches said Pakistan had also shifted troops normally based in Quetta, near the Afghan border, to southeastern Sindh Province.

Pakistan's military believes that in the case of all-out war, India's larger and better-equipped Army would push for the huge southern port of Karachi, Pakistan's economic lifeline.

"War is not imminent, but Pakistan has every reason to be worried," said a European military attache here.

Ms. Bhutto visited Iran, Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Tunisia on the tour that began May 15. Sources close to the Pakistani delegation said the diplomatic blitz was aimed at bringing diplomatic pressure to bear on New Delhi over Kashmir, deterring India from launching an attack to punish Pakistan for backing the Kashmiri separatists.

Pakistan has denied Indian allegations that it is training and arming Kashmiri militants, but Ms. Bhutto repeatedly said during her tour that Pakistan could not stop supporting the Kashmiris politically. She reiterated Islamabad's stand that both India and Pakistan are bound by United Nations resolutions to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir on the future of disputed territory, resolutions that New Delhi maintains have been superseded.

During her tour, Ms. Bhutto received the strongest expressions of support from Iran and Libya, besides

those from Tunisia. Both Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Libya's Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi—a friend of her late father Zulfikar 'Ali Bhutto—both pledged to uphold "Islamic solidarity" in supporting Pakistan against foreign aggression. Other countries, including Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Yemen, simply stressed the importance of avoiding war, saying it would be economically devastating to the already-indebted neighbors.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, whose country has a long tradition of friendship with India because of their joint sponsorship of the non-aligned movement, was more reserved in his talks with Ms. Bhutto. He did offer however to mediate as a "common friend of both India and Pakistan" to help resolve their dispute on Kashmir, Pakistani sources said.

Ms. Bhutto also met in Cairo with Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasir 'Arafat and cleared up a recent "misunderstanding" over his reported statement favouring India on Kashmir, the sources said without elaborating.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who had been travelling with Prime Minister Bhutto, stayed behind in Cairo to discuss a proposal to postpone the Islamic foreign ministers conference from early June to the end of July. Pakistani sources said he was conferring with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in Baghdad in an effort that to assure the conference is not delayed for more than one or two weeks. Pakistan plans to move a resolution denouncing the repression in the Indian part of Kashmir and calling for political support for Pakistan in the face of the threat of war with India, the sources said.

Despite the pledges of support made by some Muslim leaders during Ms. Bhutto's trip, analysts questioned whether Islamic countries would really stand by Pakistan in the event of war. But they said the voyage had helped end Pakistan's sense of diplomatic isolation over Kashmir, in addition to assuring Ms. Bhutto's popularity with Pakistan's Muslim masses.

60 Deaths, 600 Arrests in Sindh in 10 Days

*BK2405101890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1014 GMT
24 May 90*

[Text] Karachi, May 24 (AFP)—Security forces have launched a campaign to arrest militants responsible for a

fresh outbreak of violence in Pakistan's southern Sindh Province, where ethnic clashes have left more than 60 people dead in the past 10 days, officials said Thursday [24 May]. No curfew break was allowed amid extreme tensions Thursday in Hyderabad, 175 kilometres (110 miles) north of here.

Paramilitary rangers took up positions in the densely populated localities, forcing people to remain indoors as the cleanup operation continued, witnesses said. Several people with weapons were arrested but their number was not disclosed. More than 600 people have been arrested throughout Sindh, including Hyderabad, where the death toll since May 14 has risen to more than 60, officials said Thursday. Police sources said those arrested included alleged terrorists and dacoits [thieves] and their suspected accomplices, while others were arrested for possessing illegal weapons. Of the 600, some 300 were arrested here overnight following violence and sniper firing in different parts of the city, officials said.

The arrests follow a statement here Tuesday by Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who said the Sindh government had taken tough measures to end the violence and results would be visible within a week.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, just back from an eight-country tour aimed at drumming up support for the Kashmiri Muslim campaign for secession from New Delhi, is expected here late Thursday to review the deteriorating situation in her home province.

Interior Minister Aitzaz Ahsan said an "absolutely even-handed, firm and sweeping action" would "bring to the book extremist elements regardless of ethnicity and political expediency."

The opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), which represents Urdu-speaking settlers from India, blamed the government for "patronising terrorists" and arresting only MQM supporters—charges the government has denied.

A Senate committee report on Sindh last year did not rule out the possibility of foreign involvement in the unrest. Some politicians believe the pattern of spreading violence indicates that trained external agents have been involved since the Kashmiri uprising intensified early this year.